



**LIMPOPO**  
LEGISLATURE

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**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

**VERBATIM REPORT  
[HANSARD]**

**OF THE  
DELIBERATIONS AND DEBATES  
OF THE  
SECOND SESSION  
OF THE  
SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE**

**THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2020**

## **MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL [CABINET]**

Office of the Premier	Mr C S Mathabatha [Premier]
Education	Ms S P Boshielo
Health	Dr P C Ramathuba
Social Development	Ms N C Rakgoale
Economic Development, Environment and Tourism	Mr T A Mokone
Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure	Mr N D Masemola
Transport and Community Safety	Ms M M Lerule-Ramakhanya
Agriculture and Rural Development	Ms N A Ndalone
CoGHTA	Mr B R Makamu
Sport, Arts and Culture	Ms T A Moraka
Provincial Treasury	Mr S C Sekoati

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The Deputy Speaker	Mr A J D Ndou
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The Leader of the Opposition	Mr M J Buthane
The Secretary of Limpopo Legislature	Mr S Mothoa

## MEMBERS OF THE LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE (in alphabetical order)

### PARTIES REPRESENTED IN THE HOUSE:

African National Congress (ANC)

Democratic Alliance (DA)

Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF)

Vryheidsfront Plus (FF+)

1. Aphiri, Mokgadi Johanna	ANC
2. Boshielo, Shela Polly	ANC
3. Buthane, Modikane Joseph	EFF
4. Kekana, Nakedi Grace	ANC
5. Lebea-Olaiya, Kedibone Margaret	ANC
6. Lekganyane, Nakedi Maria	ANC
7. Lerule-Ramakhanya, Mavhungu Maureen	ANC
8. Maharaj, Risham	DA
9. Mahasela, Mahlodi Caroline	ANC
10. Makamu, Basikopo Rodgers	ANC
11. Makhurupetje, Makoma Grace	ANC
12. Managa, Lilian	EFF
13. Manganye, Tinyiko Florence	EFF
14. Maritz, Marcelle Frieda	FF+
15. Marule, Jacob Boy Otto	ANC
16. Maseko, Funani Jerry	ANC
17. Masekoameng, Mmabogahla Isaiah	ANC
18. Masemola, Namane Dickson	ANC
19. Mashamaite, Nkholo Victor	ANC
20. Mathabatha, Chupu Stanley	ANC
21. Mathe, Simon Matsobane	ANC
22. Mathye, Susani Violet	ANC
23. Matlou, Leswafo Joshua	ANC
24. Mdaka, Falaza Philemon	ANC
25. Mitileni, Wisani Goodman	ANC
26. Mochadi, Sekutu Monicca	ANC
27. Mohlala, Manamane Charles	EFF
28. Mokaba-Phukwana, Mapula Annah	ANC
29. Mokgonyana, Essob Mmanoko	ANC
30. Mokone, Thabo Andrew	ANC
31. Molapo, Reneiloe Rosemarry	ANC
32. Monama, Ganny Rodgers	ANC
33. Monyamane, Nkome Sarah	ANC
34. Moraka, Anna Tandi	ANC
35. Mphahlele Selaelo Regina	EFF
36. Ndalane, Nandi Annah	ANC
37. Ndou, Azwindini Jeremiah Dingaan	ANC
38. Phala, Katlego Suzan	DA

39. Phala, Kgolane Alfred	ANC
40. Radzilani, Fulufhelo Florence	ANC
41. Rakgoale, Chritian Nkakareng	ANC
42. Ramathuba, Phophi Constance	ANC
43. Raphela, George	EFF
44. Sekoati, Seaparo Charles	ANC
45. Selamolela Selelo Donald	ANC
46. Selane, Che Bonnie David	ANC
47. Seono, Mmaishibe Rebecca	ANC
48. Seshoka, Jetrick	EFF
49. Smalle, Jacobus Frederik	DA

#### **PERMANENT DELEGATES TO NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

1. Mamaregane, Mmamora Lilliet	ANC
2. Mathevula, Brenda Tirhani	EFF
3. Matibe, Tshitereke Baldwin	ANC
4. Nchabeleng, Mamagase Aleck	ANC
5. Shaikh, Shahidabibi	ANC
6. Smit, Christiaan Frederik Beyers	DA

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- a) Rules Committee
- b) Internal Arrangements Committee
- c) Programming Committee
- d) Whippery
- e) Disciplinary Committee
- f) Committee on Ethics and Members' Interests
- g) Committee of Presiding Officers
- h) Public Accounts Committee
- i) Public Participation and Petitions
- j) Quality of Life and Status of Women, Youth and Disability

### CATEGORY TWO – PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

- a) Provincial Treasury
- b) Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs
- c) Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure
- d) Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
- e) Agriculture and Rural Development
- f) Transport and Community Safety
- g) Sport, Arts and Culture
- h) Education
- i) Health
- j) Social Development
- k) Public Administration
- l) Oversight Review Mechanism

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Ndala, N T (Ms)  
Netshamulivho, A J (Mr)

**VERBATIM SPEECHES OF THE  
LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE  
LEBOWAKGOMO LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER  
THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2020  
MEETING OF THE HOUSE: 10:00**

**1. PRAYERS/MEDITATIONS**

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

We shall now have an opportunity for a moment of silence for prayers and/or meditations.

[SILENCE]

Thank you. Please be seated. Hon Speaker and honourable Members, we want to welcome you again to this session today. I continue to urge all of us to respect the protocols of COVID-19. We must wear our masks, wash our hands frequently as stipulated and keep social distance.

We have noted the concerns raised by Members on Tuesday, about the session which was very long without any break and lunch. We have considered that, and today we will have lunch. We will make sure that the session runs smoothly without any problem.

**2. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Are there any motions without notice in terms of House Rule 145? Hon Phala, you are recognised.

**MS PHALA**

Thank you, Hon speaker.

**THE OUTCOME OF THE BAIL APPLICATION FOR THE DEACONS' MURDERERS**  
(Motion without Notice)

I rise on behalf of the DA that this House notes and welcomes the outcome of the bail application on Tuesday, 13 October 2020, in the Polokwane Magistrates Court for the four accused in the Deacons murder. The magistrate denied them bail and all four suspects will now be behind bars until the finalisation of the case.

This House should further note that the suspects face multiple charges including two charges of premeditated murder under section 6 of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act 51 of 1977). The three murder suspects and the domestic worker of the Deacons who are allegedly the masterminds behind this horrendous act, were subsequently arrested. The prosecutor proved two previous convictions against the Deacons' domestic worker, one being assault with the intention to do grievous bodily harm.

Hon Speaker, those who commit crime against humans must be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. As a Legislature, we must recognise the severity of this crisis in our society and continue to make the dignity, respect and safety of the women and girls in our society our number priority. We should also acknowledge and appreciate the work done by SAPS in quickly apprehending these suspects.

I so move.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder. I recognise you, Hon Maharaj.

### **MR MAHARAJ**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I hereby second the motion as proposed by Hon Phala.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Can I raise the concern raised by Hansard? They have a concern that the roving mics are making it difficult for them to hear what is happening. We will request Members who don't have mics in front of them to either come to the podium or to the next mic which is mounted on the desk, so that we can also help Hansard to record the proceedings correctly. I forgot to raise it before we started. I am sorry Hon Phala

Are there any further motions without notice? Hon Mathe, you are recognised. Hon Mathe, can you please move your motion!

### **BACKGROUND**

[inaudible]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Hon Mathe, you can't walk... Order! Order Members! Can you allow the Member to move the motion? May you please continue.

### **MR MATHE**

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

### **COMMEMORATION OF THE TROJAN HORSE MASSACRE**

(Motion without Notice)

Hon Deputy Speaker, I, Simon Mathe, hereby raise a motion on behalf of the African National Congress that today, 15 October 2020, marks 35 years since the Trojan Horse Massacre in which members of the security forces shot and killed three young people, who were part of an anti-apartheid demonstrations, in Athlone, Cape Town. On the day

of the incident, security forces and Railway Police worked together to crush a gathering of young people who were protesting against the apartheid government. This incident became known as the Trojan Horse Massacre.

A South African Railways truck was loaded with crates close to the edges all around the back with the middle unloaded to create space for the police to hide. The truck drove down Thornton Road to middle of the protest with armed police hidden behind the crates. Then the armed police, hiding behind the crates sprang up and opened fire killing three young people and injuring several others.

Thirteen men were charged with the incident and the case was referred to the Attorney-General of the Cape Province who refused to prosecute those who were responsible for the massacre. Hon Speaker, this and multitudes of other incidents characterised the brutality of the apartheid government that maimed our people and rendered them as insubordinate citizens in their country of birth.

The collective effort by the ANC and a conglomerate of other mass democratic movement formations had eventually brought the brutal apartheid government on its knees. To this day we are still grappling with the effects of the apartheid ramifications.

I so move.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Let me recognise Hon Matlou. The masks are creating problems.

### **MR MATLOU**

Ke a leboga, Deputy Speaker. I, Leswafu Joshua Matlou, hereby second the motion as presented by Hon Mathe. Thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. Are there any further motions without notice?

### **MR SESHOKE**

I would like to object to the motion by Hon Mathe on the basis that the honourable Member is presenting on issues of national interest not of provincial interest.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

The objection is noted, meaning that the motion stands off unless somebody calls for the division of the House. Hon Phala, you are recognised.

### **ADV PHALA**

Hon Speaker, I move that the House be divided to decide on the fate of the motion tabled by Hon Mathe. Thanks very much.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

We will then divide the House. Those who agree with the motion will say 'Yeah'. Those who are objecting the motion will say 'Nay'. Can I have those who are agreeing with the motion.

### **BACKGROUND**

Yes.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Can I have those who are against the motion.

### **BACKGROUND**

No.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

The 'Yes' have it. The motion is carried. [APPLAUSE] Are there any further motions without notice? It's over to you, Hon Managa.

### **MS MANAGA**

Thank you, Hon speaker. Greetings to you and all the honourable Members present in this House.

### **CONGRATULATORY REMARKS TO THE INAUGURAL FEMALE LEADER OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO**

(Motion without Notice)

I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters with a motion without notice. The EFF in Limpopo has done it again. We want to take this opportunity to congratulate the first female student leader at the University of Limpopo. Fighter Sekedi Mabatha, who is a leader of the EFF Student Command at the institution is the inaugural female leader of the student representative council.

This affirmation attests that in the EFF the development and empowerment of female activists is at the epicenter of our struggle to liberate women. The EFF in Limpopo believes that women have more meaningful roles to play in society other than being confined to the kitchen or babysitting.

We call upon all the students to rally behind this leader as she will be unleashing the potential which was locked for decades in the systematic exclusions towards females. It

is the EFF which seeks to collapse all patriarchal barriers and create a conducive environment for all women to prosper in all spheres of our society.

The EFF during its tenure as a leader of the students in the institution has delivered on its manifestos and will continue to do so in the interest of the students. We therefore wish this fighter prosperity and success in the struggle of resolving and realising the dreams of students who in the majority are from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The EFF government will cancel all student debts, reintegrate all students who were excluded on the basis of fees and give certificates, diplomas and degrees to all students who passed and were denied their qualifications because of their outstanding fees.

I so move, Hon Speaker.

### **THE SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder to the motion? Hon Mohlala, you may take the floor.

### **MR MOHLALA**

I, Manamane Mohlala, stand to second the motion as presented by Hon Managa. Thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. Are there any further motions without notice? Hon Mphahlele, you are recognised.

### **MS MPHACHELE**

#### **A CALL FOR AN END TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE** (Motion without Notice)

Hon Speaker, I rise on behalf of the EFF to move without Notice that the House notes that the EFF in Limpopo calls for an end to the killings which continue to cloud the peaceful name of this province. Recent reports warrant of us to take a decisive step and act against this emerging inhumane behaviour. A VIP officer by the name of Mankind Machabaphala shot and killed a student Alice Mahlaloga who was a tenant at Zone 1 Extension in Seshego.

We believe the law will take its cause and set an example so that in future no officer can be reckless and endanger the lives of people.

A 34-year-old police constable who was stationed in Lephalale shot and killed her husband and burned their house, thereafter, shooting and wounding her 17-year-old daughter who was over 200km away from the initial scene before killing herself using a service pistol. This unfortunate incident should be not repeated in our society. We wish

the surviving daughter a speedy recovery and call on government to provide her with all the support required for full recovery.

A family was killed in a suspected suicide in Nkowankowa, where two children aged 9 and 13 were burned together with their 51-year-old father.

We call upon the SAPS to have continuous support mechanisms which can detect problems amongst its officers and develop clear systems to help those in trouble. It is law enforcement officers who must be exemplary in society and a clarion call is made to other officers to use services of psychologists and other professionals when they have challenges. We call upon communities to help police with information which can lead to the arrest of suspects who killed two businesswomen who were shot in an alleged hit at the industrial area over the past weekend.

Lastly, the EFF in Limpopo makes a further call to all citizens of Limpopo to find amicable ways to resolve conflicts and disputes than resorting to GBV (gender-based violence) and other hurtful activities. We convey our condolences to the families of the deceased.

I so move. Thank you, Hon speaker.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Managa, you are recognised.

### **MS MANAGA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Managa Lilian, rise to second the motion as presented by Hon Winny Selaelo Mphahlele. I thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Are there any further motions without notice? If none, we are going to item 3.

### **3. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

Are there any notices of motions in terms of House Rule 146? There is none.

### **4. MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Are there any Statements by Members in terms of Rule 200? Hon Maharaj, you may take the podium.

### **MR MAHARAJ**

Thank you, Hon Speaker.

### **THE HIGH COURT JUDGEMENT DECLARING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR OF THE LEPELLE-NKUMPI MAYOR UNLAWFUL**

(Members' Statement)

Hon Speaker and honourable Members, the recent judgement of the High Court in the Limpopo Provincial Division, Polokwane, in Lehlaga Ezekiel Mphahlele of the ANC and seven others, Case No 5826/2019 declared Meriam Molala's appointment as the Mayor of the Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality unlawful. The case was brought to court by Ezekiel Mphahlele who was first on the ANC's PR councilor list after a vacancy was created by the resignation of Cllr Sibanda Kekana in July 2019.

The court found that the ANC's amended list to include Ms Molala was not procedural according to section 20 of the Municipal Structures Act, as the changes did not occur within 20 days. Her inclusion on the list was therefore declared unlawful and invalid by the High Court.

Ms Molala is not new to controversy. When she resigned from her position as Municipal Manager of the Mogalakwena Municipality, the municipality had incurred R1 billion in irregular expenditure. Ms Molala subsequently bolted to Lepelle-Nkumpi where she was appointed as mayor.

Ms Molala is believed to have instructed the Municipal Manager of Lepelle-Nkumpi to appeal against the judgement, abusing more taxpayers' money in an attempt to secure her own political survival.

Can the honourable MEC for CoGHSTA please clarify this House, when will Ms Molala be held accountable for the maladministration as accounting officer for the Mogalakwena Municipality? Does the MEC agree with the court judgement? Does he condone the appeal that will be launched by the Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality, funded by taxpayers' money?

I thank you.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thanks very much. Are there any other Statements by Members? There is none. Can I check if Members of the Executive Council want to respond? It's over to you, Hon Nkakareng. No, Hon Rakgoale. I'm sorry.

**THE MEC FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Thank you so much. Greetings to the Hon Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislature, Members of the Executive Council, Chief Whip of the ruling party, chairpersons of various portfolio committees, esteemed Members of the House, good morning.

The month of October is observed annually as a Social Development Month. A month in which we normally... [INTERJECTION]

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Hon Rakgoale, if you could just wait. We wanted to check if there is a response to the Members' Statement before we come to Executive Statements. May I recognise the MEC for Education.

### **THE MEC FOR EDUCATION [ON BEHALF OF THE MEC FOR COGHSTA]**

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. We have noted the Statement raised by the DA. We will inform the MEC for CoGHSTA to come and report to this House in the next Sitting. Thank you very much.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. Hon Nkakareng, that's your time now. [LAUGHTER]

### **5. EXECUTIVE STATEMENTS**

#### **THE MEC FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Thank you very much, Hon Speaker. I will give keep on reminding you that Nkakareng is a name.

Greetings to the Hon Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislature, Members of the Executive Council, Chief Whip of the Ruling Party, chairpersons of various portfolio committees, esteemed Members of the House. Good morning. Thobela. Ndi matsheloni. Avuxeni.

#### **OBSERVING THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MONTH** (Executive Statement)

The month of October is observed annually as a Social Development Month. A month in which we normally highlight all the activities and services that are being offered by the department to our communities. Unfortunately, this year we are observing the month under the difficult moments of COVID-19 which has left devastating effects in our economy and our lives in general.

A number of our programmes in the department have therefore been brought to a halt. What is more troublesome about this month is that we have been hit with what the President recently dubbed the second pandemic of gender-based violence. Just this week alone we have lost lives of seven people in incidents that are related to gender-based violence. It seems like people simply have a total disregard and disrespect of the law. Taking an innocent life has become too easy.

Yesterday, I visited three families in the Mogalakwena municipal area where three people were killed in gender-based violence related incidents. A 22-year-old Annikie Thembele was stabbed to death allegedly by her boyfriend at Tshamahansi village. Nellvell Mokgata was shot and killed by his wife who was a police officer in Lephalale. The police proceeded to Gauteng, shot and killed her two daughters and later turned her gun on

herself. A 54-year-old Maria Makhafola was killed with an axe by her partner at Moshate village. The partner also committed suicide.

I also attended a court appearance of a ward councilor who allegedly raped a 14-year-old girl in Mokwakwaila. In another gruesome incident in Nkowankowa, a man allegedly set alight a house while he was inside with his two daughters. All the while, another woman was murdered in Seshego just yesterday, and the news reached us as we were visiting the aforementioned families to console them and ensure that they are receiving counselling.

Honourable Members, I want to implore you not to be deterred by these alarming rates of gender-based violence and femicide cases. Now is not the time to fold our arms and shrug our shoulders. Now is the time to join hands, unite and work together, in finding a long-lasting solution to the escalating scourge.

I am sharing President Ramaphosa's sentiments that as long as a woman is being harassed, abused, raped and murdered, we cannot say that we are a civilised society. Abusing women is not our tradition nor our custom.

The light at the end of the tunnel is that the Department of Social Development together with the Department of Transport and Community Safety were able to establish a Gender-Based Violence Technical Committee and its work is already underway. Our Hon Premier, Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, launched the technical committee by hosting a virtual imbizo.

Now that the COVID-19 lockdown levels have been eased, we should be able to hit the ground running and start having interactive sessions with civil society, NGOs, royal leaders, LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex), faith-based organisations and other relevant structures. Our campaigns will target all those areas where incidents of GBV cases are very rife.

However, we still believe that harsher punishment meted out against perpetrators of gender-based violence will truly assist as a deterrent to would-be abusers, rapists and murderers. We need to continue to call for no bail for these criminals. We have recently seen the Limpopo High Court sentencing Ntiyiso Xilumani to life imprisonment for the murder of his girlfriend, Dr Shongile Nkhwashu. The case was completed without delays. In our view, sentences such as these serve as a deterrent to would-be perpetrators of gender-based violence.

We also call on the strengthening in the moral regeneration of society. It is evident that there is a total lack of respect for human dignity and rights. The hope is that we can report back to this august House at the end of this month on the successes and the strides made to better the lives of our people even under the current difficult circumstances.

I thank you. [APPLAUSE]

## THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Can I check with political parties? Is there anyone from the DA who would like to respond?

### **MS PHALA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. We join hands with the Department of Social Development as stated by the MEC that it is a Social Development Month. We celebrate it with them. This House should note that Limpopo celebrates this Social Development Month with the Department of Social Development having reduced the budget that assists VECs (victim empowerment centres) in this province.

Hon Speaker, we welcome the GBV Technical Committee's work and we hope that it will be productive going forward. We say to the Department Development, continue working hand in hand with the Department of Community Safety to ensure that justice is brought to our people. [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Hon Phala, may you please wait. What is the problem Hon Selamolela? You can't hear. Can we request you ... [INTERJECTION]

### **MS PHALA**

Hon Speaker, am I audible enough now? Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I will start from the beginning. We welcome the Executive Statement as read by honourable MEC. We are saying that this House and the people of Limpopo should further note that as we celebrate the Social Development Month, Limpopo celebrates it with VECs having their budget reduced across the province.

We also welcome the implementation of the Gender-Based Violence Technical Committee. We urge the Department of Social Development to continue working with the Department of Community Safety to ensure that justice is brought to our people. We are also saying to the residents of Limpopo, it is not only the work of government but also of communities to ensure that we win the gender-based violence fight.

As women, we would also like to see harsh sentences being given to perpetrators and no bail where possible to these suspects.

Thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you. May I recognise Hon Managa from the EFF.

### **MS MANAGA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. When the MEC, Hon Nkakareng Rakgoale was reading the Executive Statement, as a woman I felt very touched. We would like to make a call to all men and all Members who are males in this House to lead by example. These cases of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence are get more day by day.

Each minute in South Africa a woman or a child in South Africa is being killed. We would like all the men who are in here to join other men who are saying not in my name, and say also, not in your name, so that this GBV can be addressed.

To the MEC, Hon Lerule-Ramakhanya, we would like to say please all the perpetrators who are causing this harm and pain to the families of the victims, please let them appear, take them to court and make sure that justice takes its course as soon as possible.

We really appreciate the technical team that was mentioned by the MEC this morning. We hope that the task ahead of this team is going to be fulfilled. As the EFF, we are also going to support you in this fight against gender-based violence because all of us are affected by this pandemic.

I thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. May I recognise Hon Monama from the ANC.

### **MR MONAMA**

Hon Speaker and honourable Members, on behalf of ANC, we want to take this opportunity to applaud the MEC for all the programmes that she has embarked upon to eradicate this scourge of gender-based violence and femicide. Notwithstanding the socioeconomic challenges that are confronting us as a society.

We are more perturbed by this second pandemic that we are experiencing as a country. We call upon all and sundry to join hands; the communities, the civil society, and all interested groups; men, women, and everyone to be on board to ensure that together with our collective wisdom, we fight this scourge.

It is in this context that we appreciate and welcome all the efforts of the MEC together with the MEC responsible for Transport and Community Safety of continuing to work with dedication and diligence in trying to create a hype about this subject matter and to ensure that our people are made aware.

There are still real men who are out there to protect women and children. We really appreciate the effort. On behalf of the ANC, we welcome the Statement, and we will continuously give you the necessary support that you need.

Thank you. [APPLAUSE]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. Are there any further Executive Statements? There is none.

## **6. TABLING OF COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER REPORTS AND PAPERS**

Are there any tabling of committee reports, other reports and papers? Hon Mathe, I was expecting that you have a report to table. It is the tabling of the report of the Ethics and Members' Interests Committee, by the chairperson of the committee, Hon Mathe. Hon Mathe, you are supposed to speak. Here is the mic on the podium. Don't worry about those that I did not recognise.

**MR MATHE**

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker, for affording us an opportunity to present the Annual Report of the Ethics and Members' Interest Committee to this House.

**THE ETHICS AND MEMBERS' INTERESTS REPORT**  
(Tabling of Reports)

The Ethics and Members' Interests Committee consists of Members appointed by the Rules Committee, subject to Rule 36 of the Standing Rules and Orders of the Limpopo Legislature. Rule 67 of the Standing Rules and Orders outlines the powers and functions of the Ethics and Members' Interests Committee. Rule 67(2) further states that: "the Ethics and Members' Interests Committee must report to the House at least annually on the operation ... [INTERJECTION]

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Hon Mathe, we want you to table the report, not to read it. [LAUGHTER]

**MR MATHE**

I, therefore, move for the adoption of the report on behalf of the Ethics and Members' Interests Committee. It should be considered as the report of the House.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

The report will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for consideration and report back to this House. Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. [APPLAUSE]

**7. ORDERS OF THE DAY**

7.1. Consideration and Adoption of the 2018/19 Reports of the Portfolio Committee on Social Development.

It's your turn, committee chairperson.

**MS MONYAMANE**

Hon Speaker, I, Sarah Monyamane, rise to move for the consideration and adoption of the 2018/19 second quarter report of the Portfolio Committee on of Social Development. I move accordingly.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder. Hon Phala, you are recognised.

**ADV PHALA**

I rise to second the report as tabled the honourable committee chairperson. Thanks very much.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Chairperson of the committee, you may take the floor. Can you pull the mic to the mouth?

**MS MONYAMANE**

I, Sarah Monyamane, rise to present the 2018/19 third quarter report of the Portfolio Committee on Social Development to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Mdaka, you are recognised.

**MR MDAKA**

I, Falaza Mdaka, stand to support the move as made by the chairperson of the committee. Thanks.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. Committee chair, you are noted.

**MS MONYAMANE**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Sarah Monyamane, rise to present the 2018/19 fourth quarter report of the Portfolio Committee on Social Development to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Seono, you are recognised.

**MS SEONO**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Mmaishibe Rebecca Seono, rise to second the move as made by Hon Monyamane. Thank you.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

It's your turn, committee chairperson.

### **MS MONYAMANE**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Sarah Monyamane, rise to present the 2018/19 Annual Report of the Portfolio Committee on Social Development to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. Is there any seconder? Let me recognise Hon Phala.

### **ADV PHALA**

A ke re be re sa tlaleletša ye a e šišintšego gonabjale. I hereby rise to second the report as tabled by the committee chairperson. [LAUGHTER]

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. We shall now refer to the Speakers' List. Just to mention, we have received a message from the Office of the Chief Whip that in consultation with other leaders of political parties, and I suppose with the speakers, for the 2018/19 financial year debates all speakers will be given three minutes. For the 2019/20 financial year debates, the time allocation will remain the same, as on the Order Paper. Please speakers, if you could consider that as you come to the podium. We will start with Hon Johanna Aphiri.

### **MS APHIRI**

Thanks very much, Hon Speaker. Ke le dumediše kamoka, including the birthday girl. Hon Speaker, the 2019 Election Manifesto of African National Congress, presents to us that the Freedom Charter is the leading soul of our country's progressive Constitution and is the foundation of Vision 2013 of the National Development Plan (NDP). Everything we are doing is in pursuance of the vision of the NDP to address the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality.

Our economy has not been fundamentally transformed to serve all our people. Unemployment still remains high, particularly among the youth. The committee was concerned that the department faces a challenge to absorb social workers who were funded by the department to further their studies mainly at the University of Limpopo. That had caused dissatisfaction and misunderstanding between the department and those students.

The committee recommended that planning be done properly concerning the intake of bursary holders so that when they have completed they are indeed absorbed. The department should fund students based on the need for the required skill. The committee

also advised that the department should also avoid making the social work profession redundant while it is critical for the department itself.

As a committee, we are concerned again about projects that took long to be completed by the department. The projects in question during the year under review are: Gawula, Mankweng, Saselamani and Mookgophong. The committee finds it hard for the management in the department to struggle in resolving minor issues related to those projects. Amongst issues that cause delay involve connection of electricity by Eskom, dissatisfaction by engineers on the quality of work and the IDT (Independent Development Trust) terminating work due to the realisation that the period lapsed. Just to mention a few.

The department should ensure that projects are monitored from the start to the end. The reasons given are unacceptable and the department must account on those deliverables. An institution like the IDT should prove to us why it should continue to exist a state-owned entity funded through the public purse and, when it comes to service delivery, it just terminates contracts and provide lousy reasons.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

You have one minute left.

### **MS APHIRI**

In conclusion let me talk to the issue of the alleviation of poverty through partnership with civil society and other stakeholders. It was reported by the department that they exceeded the targets as set out in the APP. The targets planned were 44 039 families, and 49 394 families benefited. The question is, where did they get the funding for the unplanned targets? The department should stick to the target they plan themselves. In improving the APP at the beginning of the financial year, the committee is made to understand that, that's what will be achieved with the budget approved by the House. Achieving more targets than what was planned and approved, implies that there is poor planning by the department.

I thank you, Hon Speaker. [APPLAUSE]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much, Hon Aphiri. Hon Seshoka, you three minutes start now

### **MR SESOKA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. Greetings to the honourable Members in the House. Hon Speaker, the EFF notes the underexpenditure in the department with disgust and disappointment. This underexpenditure is notable in programmes 02 and 03 which are critical programmes in this department meant for the improvement of the lives and the wellbeing of our people.

The EFF is concerned that the department is still failing to absorb bursary holders of social work graduates despite the public outcry in the fifth term of the Legislature and this anomaly must be corrected. We then agree with all that Hon Aphiri has said in terms of remedial actions and in terms of the issue of scholars.

Again, Hon Speaker, the EFF demands that the department presents a report in this House on how many of these young people were trained through this programme since the fifth term to date, and how many were employed and how many are still not employed. This will lead to many social ills in society like crime because an idle mind is the devil's workshop.

The EFF is concerned that the number of children in conflict with the law has increased during the period under review. The government is not doing enough to put these troubled children through restorative programmes that will make them not repeat offenders. We cannot become a nation of criminals and more needs to be done to help such children that constantly find themselves in conflict with the law because they will become hardened criminals.

Violence against children, women and people with disability is on the rise, signaling the symptoms of a sick society that cannot protect its most vulnerable citizens. The government is failing its own citizens and cannot guarantee their protection and safety against thugs and hooligans who masquerade as men.

The EFF is also concerned that inpatient treatment services were not rendered at Seshego Treatment Centre and still not operational as expected. We demand that this centre be utilised for the benefit of young people of Seshego and the surrounding areas.

I thank you

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much, Hon Seshoka. Hon Phala, you are noted.

### **MS PHALA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. In the 2018/19 financial year the Department of Social Development still had issues with the absorption of social workers. It has become crystal clear by now that the department is unable to do so. More so that they have now advised these graduates to look for employment in the NGOs, knowing very well the state and how underfunded are these NGOs.

As we consider the adoption of this report, it must be noted that in the year under review, there was a total number of 1 617 social workers and 66 social work supervisors at production level. It was indicated that the workforce was not sufficient and the ratio of social work supervisors was 1:23, whilst it should be 1:10.

As the committee, we also took note of the Auditor-General's report regarding the department's performance. They obtained a qualified audit opinion due to irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure. This was largely because the department did not have proper internal control systems for the recording of all receivables, payables, pre-payments and advanced transections.

According to the A-G, it was difficult to confirm these accounts and determine whether further adjustments received were necessary and confirmed the impact of the transfers and subsidies. Upon engaging the A-G's report, we were concerned as a committee that a qualified report was due to the department providing the A-G with information that lacked authenticity and was unreliable and did not comply with the financial reporting framework.

As if submitting unreliable information to the A-G was not enough, the department further failed to produce documents to enable the A-G to investigate the irregular expenditure. It was concerning that these documents were reported lost. As a committee, we advised the department to find and submit those documents as they were critical in resolving the irregular expenditure investigation.

As I conclude, it is not all doom and gloom. The department exceeded its EPWP targets due to receiving more funds from national Department of Social Development for the expansion of the Isibindi programme. The department further complied with the required employment equity policy, more so, on the gender balance and disability. The department achieved 50% in senior management positions which translated to 11 women and 11 men in senior management positions and 2% for people with disability which was an employment of 69 people.

As a committee, we had 16 recommendations in the 2018/19 financial year for the department to implement. It is hoped that all of them are taken on board to improve the overall performance of the department.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much, Hon Phala. Hon Sarah Monyamane, it's your turn.

### **MS MONYAMANE**

Thank you, Hon Speaker, Hon Premier in absentia, Members of the Executive Council, Hon Chair of Chairs ... [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Hon Monyamane, if you could just wait. We have requested Members to avoid using the roving mics because of the request of Hansard. We kindly request that you move to the nearest mic. The podium is available also.

### **MS MONYAMANE**

Sorry, Hon Speaker. The roving mic was brought to my table. Hon Speaker, Hon Rosemary Molapo; Premier, Hon Chupu Mathabatha; Deputy Speaker, Hon Jerry Ndou; Members of the Executive Council, Hon Chair of Chairs, Hon Deputy Chair of Chairs, Hon Chief Whip, Leader of the Opposition, good morning.

Hon Speaker, some of the issues raised by my colleagues and the challenges faced by the department are historical. The department must roll up its sleeves and ensure that funded posts are filled. Of these posts, those that are not funded must be budgeted for to ensure that accountability and responsibility are enforced. It is totally unacceptable that most of the challenges stay with the department for a period of more than three financial years.

The department must ensure that the personnel occupying critical posts are retrained to acquire the requisites to implement its programmes. If the personnel are capacitated and skilled, the department will spend money effectively and avoid wastage and corruption. The ANC's vision is to build a more equal, just and human society where all human beings are treated with respect and dignity and where all enjoy the rights and protection enshrined in our Bill of Rights and that no one exploits or discriminates against another. This department has programmes that should uplift the lives of vulnerable children and families.

The department reported in their first, second and third quarter reports that targets have been exceeded with the aid of other grants. The committee recommends that targets budgeted for in the Annual Performance Plans are achieved without losing a cent. The committee is emphasising this because the department is unable to achieve some of its KPIs. The committee commended the department for subsidising 278 children and 176 children with disability in the second quarter at Early Childhood Development centres. However, the committee noted that ECD centres which are not registered do not abide by the procedures regarding the care of children. The department must investigate and those found to have violated the law must be brought to book. The question is whether the department has the necessary capacity to monitor these ventures or not. The ANC's goal is to build a skilled, researched ... [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable Member, your time has expired.

### **MS MONYAMANE**

... capacity to find new solutions to problems. The department should find ways to ... [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable Member, your time has expired. Thank you very much. Can I have the response by the MEC?

### **THE MEC FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I wanted to check if the previous arrangement still stands, whereby it was indicated that I will be afforded the opportunity to respond at the end?

**THE SPEAKER**

Yes, you will respond at the end. I am sorry about that. Thank you. Consideration and adoption of the 2019/20 reports of the Portfolio Committee on Social Development. Committee chairperson, you are recognised.

**MS MONYAMANE**

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I, Sarah Monyamane, rise to present the first quarter report of the Department of Social Development for the 2019/20 financial year to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Seono, you are recognised.

**MS SEONO**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Mmaishibe Rebecca Seono, rise to second the motion as presented by the chairperson, Sarah Monyamane. Thank you.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable chairperson, you are recognised.

**MS MONYAMANE**

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I, Sarah Monyamane, rise to present the second quarter report of the Department of Social Development for the 2019/20 financial year to this House- for consideration and adoption. I so move.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Selane, you are recognised.

**MR SELANE**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I hereby support the chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Social Development, Hon Sarah Monyamane. Thank you.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable chairperson, you are recognised.

## **MS MONYAMANE**

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I, Sarah Monyamane, rise to present the third quarter report of the Department of Social Development for the 2019/20 financial year to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Matlou, you are recognised.

## **MR MATLOU**

Ke a leboga Mosepedišamodiro. Bjalo ka Leloko la Lekgotlatheramelao, nna, Leswafo Joshua Matlou, ke ema go thekga seo modulasetulo wa Komiti ya Social Development a se bolelago. Ke a leboga.

## **THE SPEAKER**

We shall refer to the Speakers' List. The first one on the Speakers' List is Hon Caroline Mahasela.

## **MS MAHASELA**

The Speaker, Hon Molapo in absentia; Hon Premier; Deputy Speaker; Members of the Executive Council; the Chief Whip of the majority party, Hon Essob Mokgonyana; honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature; members of our chapter 9 and 10 institutions, mošate. Happy birthday to Hon Tandi Moraka.

We are three weeks away from a historic month popularly known as Heritage Month. It is common knowledge that our provincial heritage is extremely rich and diverse. As a province we are also faced with increasing challenges concerning the conservation and management of our heritage sites in a rapid changing and developing environment which is characterised by a series of socioeconomic projects. That is one aspect to champion if you want to effectively improve the use of our heritage as resource, reduce poverty and stimulate sustainability. Hence the committee recommends that the department needs to speed up refurbishment of Motumo Trading Post along the N1 road in Botlokwa.

Having engaged the department and scrutinised the department's 2019/20 fourth quarter, the committee has recommended that the department should maintain, upgrade and equip Motumo Trading Post at all costs to ensure that it contributes effectively and efficiently to the educational development to Botlokwa community.

As highlighted in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa ... [INTERJECTION]

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable Member, I hope you are aware that we are discussing Social Development.

### **MS MAHASELA**

Yes, it is Social Development. The Constitution provides in section 114 that the Legislature has to ensure that all state organs in the province must be ... Are you going to add my three minutes, Hon Deputy Speaker?

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Continue, honourable Member.

### **MS MAHASELA**

The department briefed the portfolio committee on its 2018/19 fourth quarter report of its consideration. The 2018/19 fourth quarter financial expenditure indicated that the department managed spent 69 instead of 75 projects of the total budget during the quarter under review. The portfolio committee encourages the department to ensure that the budget is spent accordingly to defeat the triple challenges ... I am sorry, Hon Deputy Speaker. [LAUGHTER]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you for the debate. Honourable Member, are you done with your debate because you just left the podium? Can we have Hon Seshoka please?

### **MR SESOKA**

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. There is no clear indication by the department as to who benefited from the 2 900 jobs created through the EPWP. This House must be empowered with a full report giving a detailed breakdown as to how many youths, how many women and how many people with disabilities benefited from this programme. The EPWP must not be used to allocate jobs along party political lines. We know that ANC ward councillors selected and allocated jobs to ANC-aligned members, friends and their relatives. Members of the community who are not supporters of the ANC or members of the ANC are deliberately excluded. Everybody pays tax and therefore everybody must benefit when it comes to job opportunities regardless of party-political affiliation.

The EFF is concerned that social workers work under unconducive environment which degrade their profession and many of them end up joining private companies for better working conditions and salaries. We are further worried that Itoteng Centre is no longer functional while Dennilton Care Centre group and Siyabathathela were facing closure due to non-compliance with minimum norms and standards. This will deny our people opportunities for services and further marginalise children and the elderly who are already vulnerable in society.

The closure of many community-based centres around the province is criminal and highly unacceptable as it disadvantages many people who need such services. This is typical of the ANC government which is completely insensitive of the developmental needs of the people. Instead of building more centres to accommodate more vulnerable people,

they close them leaving many destitute and stranded with nowhere to go. Sooner or later, we will be having no community-based care centres in the province. The ANC government is hell-bent on reducing services to the people when there is a serious service delivery backlog.

We are further worried that ECD in this department does not comply with minimum registration requirements. This non-compliance is worrying because it violates the laws that are meant to regulate such sector and to ensure proper coordination. The EFF is worried about the high number of young people using drugs and alcohol in the province. There are no radical and intensive programmes to counter such behaviour among young people which result in many social ills in society.

We call upon the lazy ANC government to create rehabilitation centres that are meant to assist young people with drug problems. What kind of government gives up on its young people because by doing so you are creating many social ills in the society? The youth and women must be at the centre of government development initiatives to empower them to be able to stand on their own. What we need is sustainable development that will benefit the current generation and the future generation. I thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Hon Mahasela, have you discovered the correct speech? You are left with six minutes.

### **MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. The Speaker, Hon Rosemarry Molapo; Hon Premier in absentia; Members of the Executive Council; the Deputy Speaker, Jerry Ndou; Hon Chair of Chairs; Hon Deputy Chair of Chairs; Hon Chief Whip; leaders of opposition parties; comrades and friends, good morning. I am sorry about the mistake that I made.

This Sitting takes place two days before the International Poverty Eradication Day. This important day is celebrated on 17 October 2020. According to the United Nations' Secretary-General António Guterres, one of the keys to ending child poverty is addressing in the House from which it often stems. Access to quality social services must be a priority.

The ANC's election manifesto states that in advancing social transformation we must work towards a comprehensive social security to protect the wellbeing of the people and society. The committee would like to report that for the year 2019/20 the department implemented social services with a total budget of R181 billion. The committee also notices that 43,4% an amount of R945 million of the budget was allocated to children and families. This pose a serious challenge as children placed in foster care and those at youth centres need to be provided with security and food.

The committee advised the department to develop a register of children in foster care – those who exited the programme and those whose cases have lapsed. The committee noted that the absorption of social workers will remain a challenge in the quarters of the financial year under review. However, the department reported to the committee that the recruitment plan was developed to address the challenge to absorb the social workers. It

was reported further that the plan will be implemented in the financial year 2020/21. The committee would like to remind the department that an oversight role will be exercised over the implementation of this recruitment plan in the year 2020/21.

In the first and second quarter a similar trend happened in the implementation of the EPWP job opportunities. The committee applauds the department for this achievement. The department must ensure that it addresses the challenge of lack of sufficient office space to accommodate its social workers. The committee learned that at Atok Thusong Service Centre and Nebo offices the conditions under which social workers perform their duties are not conducive. The department must build more open offices for its social workers so that they should not cramped in small offices.

The department should ensure that each personnel find the workplace to be home away from home. In that case our social workers will be able to execute their duties efficiently. Lack of good infrastructure discourages the social workers to improve the concrete situation of the people of our province. The department reported that 579 elderly people benefited from eight funded residential facilities. It was further reported that 19 484 care programmes have been financed. Although there is underperformance in terms of planned targets the committee applauds the department for taking care of the elderly.

The department further reported that 15 community-based centres were closed down due to lack of accommodation. There are no structures, no rendered services, non-compliance with minimum norms and standards, members no longer going to the centre and disputes from chieftainship. It is critical that these centres open and training and management of these centres is provided.

I support the chairperson that the report of the department be adopted by the House. I thank you. [APPLAUSE]

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. I just want to advise Members that as you leave your chair, please check if you are holding the correct speech so that we maximise the time that is allocated to us. I now call upon Hon Phala.

## **MS PHALA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. In the first quarter of the 2019/20 financial year general expenditure was almost at the norm at 25%. Although it was a bit worrying that the expenditure on Social Welfare Services Programme was only at 21% and the expenditure for the Development and Support Programme was at 22% in the first quarter and at 42% in the second quarter, this continued and the performance was concerning to the committee in these programmes which are key in the interventions of the department.

It is worth acknowledging that in the first quarter the department exceeded its target and 465 jobs were created instead of the targeted 400. It was also encouraging that over the period under review the department managed to meet its target and have 55% women in

the senior management services; and a 2,1% employment equity for people living with disabilities.

The department managed to overachieve in some of its social welfare services sub-programmes. In the first quarter it was stated that the department had a target of 10 374 for the social and behaviour change programme and 11 275 beneficiaries reached. Meanwhile, about 12 583 people were reached instead of the 8 1 80 through psycho-social support services.

In the second quarter, with regard to HIV/Aids, the department managed to ensure that 27 635 people benefitted from social and behaviour change programmes as well as psycho-social support services. The department reported that there were two shelters for victims of crime and violence in the province. One can only wonder if this is enough with increase in crime and violence especially among women and children. It was very concerning to the committee to note that the department showed to meet its target with regard to beneficiaries of community-based care and support services. This was largely due to the closure of 16 centres due to non-compliance with minimum norms and standards.

In the second quarter only 19 484 people were targeted and 20 620 people benefited from this service. At the period under review there was an increase on number of victims of crime and violence and the ones receiving services at the VEP Centres. It was stated that 3 854 instead of the 3 609 benefited in the programme in 74 funded VEPs around the province. This points to an increasing high number of victims of crime and violence and [inaudible] if there needs to be a significant increase in these centres. The reports showed low intakes in the funded treatment centres despite the prevalence of drug and alcohol dependency. In the second quarter inpatient treatment was only availed to 22 of the targeted 72 people.

As I conclude, out of the numerous recommendations given over the three quarters there are recurring matters that the committee thought needed the department's urgent attention. The most important of these being a plan and reasons for the relatively low admission rate at Seshego Treatment Centre, improving working conditions of social services, absorption plan for social work bursary graduates, the need for monitoring systems to improve NGO compliance to standard as well as accountability; and most importantly effective plans to intensify prevention campaigns to curb and reduce gender-based violence.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you, Hon Phala. Hon Sarah Monyamane, please take the podium.

## **MS MONYAMANE**

The Speaker, Hon Molapo, the Deputy Speaker, the Premier in absentia, Chair of Chairs, the Deputy Chair of Chairs and the Chief Whip, I greet you. The committee noted with serious concern that there are historical issues in relation to audit that the department is

not willing to resolve. The issue of irregular expenditure, fruitless and wasteful are the crux of the matter that the department must stop them from recurring to future years.

However, the committee observed during the interaction with the department that it lacked able bodied men and women to fully focus their time and energy in assisting the department to get out of this [inaudible]. It is important and advisable that the executive authority must implement the law and instil discipline to the senior management of the department. The departmental personnel at senior level must show willingness to address this predicament the department is faced with and prove as to why they are earning huge salaries. Of great concern in the implementation of the internal control which is the core of the system used in the department; this is the responsibility of the accounting officer whom the committee regards to be understanding the Public Finance Management Act.

Lack of willingness to institute consequence management is a serious challenge in this department. It cannot be that when employees do as they wish the accounting officer fails to institute discipline. It must be reported in this august House that failure by the accounting officer to take disciplinary measures to junior personnel creates an impression that there is laissez faire. The department must strengthen its procurement section with skilled personnel. Training, for the personnel will also assist the department in that they will not recruit from outside but use the system that is available.

The department in most instances fail to comply with the procurement and contraction regulation. The committee had noted with serious concern during its interaction with the department about the contractual and utilisation of built infrastructure at Shiluvana Frail Care Centre, Seshego Treatment Centre and Phasha One Stop Centre. Seshego Treatment Centre took a long time to start servicing the children who are addicted to drugs and substance abuse.

The department had contractual challenges with the contractor which took long to be resolved. Shiluvana Frail Care Centre is funded by the department an amount of R27 million and the department seems to have lost control of the centre. The management hires and fires staff as they wish. This is because of challenges between the Department of Social Development and the Department of Health.

The two departments must resolve the handing over of the centre with speed before the situation at Shiluvana gets out of control. Of more concern is that the centre is assisting people who are frail. The Department of Social Development and the Department of Public Works must resolve the situation and the losses incurred in terms of building the centre at GaPhasha in Sekhukhune District. It must be reported to this august House that the land where the centre is built is claimed to be a private land and the two departments are locked out. There is litigation on the erection of this centre which creates an indication that legal service is not willing to bring it to an end. The committee recommends that the department must meet with the department involved to resolve the situation. At the Seshego Treatment Centre, the department must ensure that the centre is utilised maximally to avoid it ending up as a white elephant. It is undesirable that during this period of democracy the department is unable to fulfil its mission and vision in terms of assisting those who are vulnerable.

The committee applauds the department regarding achievement of employment equity policy particularly on gender balance and disability. The achievement of 50% on women and 2% on people living with disabilities is a great achievement. The mandate given to us by the electorate is to create jobs for them particularly the youth. It is undesirable that the department funds the education of young people and when they graduate the same department is failing to provide jobs to them.

The committee is not saying that all people who go to further their studies must find employment, some must assist our democracy by creating jobs for themselves and employ others. But when you fund a particular project, it means you have a documented plan for that project and it will also be utilised maximally. The department must not create an impression to young people that social work qualifications do not have value and it must resolve this challenge to fit in our democracy.

The department had a challenge to fill critical vacancies. The committee regards this challenge as the one that leads the department to remain on a qualified audit opinion. Non-appointment of senior staff creates instability, lack of responsibility and accountability. The department must appoint the accounting officer and other senior management posts to enable it to be fully functional. It is imperative that the department implements all the recommendations as it will assist them to improve the audit opinion.

I also support the report of the department to be adopted with recommendation. I thank you. [APPLAUSE]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you, Hon Monyamane. Can we have the MEC for Social Development, Hon Nkakareng Rakgoale's response?

### **THE MEC FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Once more thank you so much, Hon Speaker. I am trying to save time. Let me go straight into responding to the issues raised by the portfolio committee. Firstly, one should acknowledge the work done by the portfolio committee as it assists the department to move forward and keep us on our toes in ensuring that the people of Limpopo receive the services as per the mandate of the department.

All the speakers stressed the issue of the non-absorption of social workers trained by the department. Perhaps one should also indicate that since 2007 to date, 2 439 social workers were trained but only 1 102 were appointed by the department. Furthermore, the Department of Education was also able, out of the very same group, to appoint 180 social workers who were trained by that department.

I must also report to the House that the Department of Social Development, both at national and provincial spheres, appeared before the Portfolio Committee to account on the same matter. Indeed it is painful to realise that we do have trained social workers that are sitting at home, while on daily basis we have a growing number of gender-based

violence in the province. We could have been utilising the services of these social workers to assist us.

I acknowledge that there is a concern raised about the non-performance under programme 1 and 2 and the fact that the department regressed. I must indicate that the detrimental issue that caused the regression is the issue of the NPO reconciliation. The A-G was able to pick up that. How we are doing it in Limpopo was different from how other provinces are doing it. I must indicate that we have developed a reconciliation system in order to make sure that we do it the way other provinces are doing it so that we are not found wanting any longer.

The department is also worried about the unwanted expenditure, irregular, wasteful and fruitless. We are doing all we can to address these challenges. Under the directorate that is supposed to deal with the issues of investigation, we only have two officials, which is a challenge. We had advertised more than 90 posts and when we were about to finalise the appointment processes, the Office of the Premier directed that the process be investigated. We had to stop the whole process. We are awaiting Office of the Premier to release a report in terms of what were their findings. That on its own has really caused us a great deal, because amongst these posts, there were six posts of senior managers which we had hoped to fill.

Let me indicate that we are working on all these issues including those of irregular and wasteful expenditure. I must indicate that there were reports that were finalised and we are busy making sure that those that were found to have contravened the law, they are brought to book.

Yes, there was a concern by the portfolio committee that the Department of Social Development seems to be dealing with issue of discipline with gloves. One could agree, because if you look at historical matters on how issues were dealt with, indeed one would notice that some of the cases had to drag for three years. This is something that we have to deal with moving forward.

We also appreciate our engagement with Treasury last week Friday. At least the positive is that we are not generating new unwanted expenditures. We are dealing with historical ones and are committed to making sure that we deal with them once and for all.

I must indicate that we have got a lot of social ills in the province. The intake at the Seshego Treatment Centre is 54 service users. The department is in the process of reviewing the red tapes that are currently used for admission at these centres. One of these challenges that we had to deal with was that the person must go and see a social worker for the social worker to make an assessment. That process on its own was the one that was taking time.

We are trying to resolve this problem to ensure that we have the best ways of ensuring that people are admitted as soon as possible. There is no truth in what Hon Seshoka has said about children in conflict with the law. The reality is that there are programmes that have been put in place. Unless if Hon Seshoka is saying vis-à-vis, if you are not to compare them. Because we are calling them children. They are prisoners; it is just that

they are under-age. You can't compare them with normal children. Unless if Hon Seshoka, we are saying when a person has been in that programme and therefore goes home and commits a crime again, then that is a challenge. For me and as the department our observation tells us that the kind of the environment that they live in when they leave our centres is the one that is not assisting the situation.

When they go back home, firstly in as much as social workers are doing the work to ensure that families accept them, some of them are rejected by the communities and their families. As long as that child had a challenge before. There are those who are even saying we can't continue to be friends with that child because you know what happened. That child would rather go back to prison instead of being part of the community. Those are some of the things that we are dealing with; and our social workers are hard at work to deal with them.

I must indicate that the information regarding the breakdown of EPWP workers appointed under this programme is readily available and can be submitted at any time. What Hon Seshoka is saying is not true. We will assist him with the criteria that we are using instead of him saying ... remember the programme is meant for the poor people who do not have an income. For him to come here and make wild allegations that it is for particular people of a particular organisation is not true. Perhaps he must share with us where he got that information so that it could be investigated.

Regarding the many issues that were raised, I wish to say that we are committed and are available to work with the portfolio committee in making sure that some of the issues that have been raised are dealt with.

Regarding the issue of overachieving the targets, let me indicate that I would not agree with committee members who say that we are setting ourselves less targets. In fact, we target based on what we have and the baseline of where we come from. From that baseline, you are able to then compare and say if last year we targeted 800 what was the achievement. If we did not achieve what were the challenges. Therefore, targeting further how do we make sure that we balance those. It is one issue that we should look into and make sure that we correct it moving forward.

In the main, I think most of the comments were about the issue of social workers. The issue of surrendering R192 million to Treasury impacted negatively on the vacant positions that were supposed to be advertised. Part of that money was supposed to be used for the appointment of 50 social workers. You will agree with us that if we were to get back that money from Treasury, we will achieve a lot. Unfortunately, our engagement with Treasury doesn't give us hope that we are likely to get back that money. Nonetheless, we hope that through our engagements with the national Portfolio Committee on Social Development, we shall get something out of it, because really, we need these social workers to be appointed.

On a positive note, we wish to indicate we have observed some social workers grouping themselves up to form NPOs which will in turn come and work with the department, because the department has a programme of funding NPOs. As Hon Phala said, NPOs also help to in job creation. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much, honourable MEC. We shall go the next order of the day. Consideration and Adoption of the 2018/19 Reports of Sport, Arts and Culture Portfolio Committee. Committee chairperson you are recognised.

## **MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Caroline Mahasela, rise to present fourth quarter and Annual Report of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture for the 2018/19 financial year to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

## **THE SPEAKER**

Can we have a seconder for the fourth quarter report as moved? Hon Phala, you are recognised.

## **ADV PHALA**

I second the motion as put by the committee chairperson, even where she is moving it from.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

You are out of order, Hon Phala. I said second the motion I didn't say motivate. Committee chairperson the stage is yours.

## **MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Caroline Mahasela, rise to present the first quarter report of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture for the 2018/19 financial year to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

## **THE SPEAKER**

Before we second that can we have a seconder for the adoption of the Annual Report? Hon Phala, you are recognised.

## **ADV PHALA**

I hereby rise to second the motion as tabled by the committee chairperson.

## **THE SPEAKER**

Thank you. Can I have a seconder for the first quarter report 2019/20? Hon Selane, you are recognised.

**MR SELANE**

Ke a leboga Mospikara. Tla ke tšee sebaka se, ke thekge modulasetulo wa komiti ya Dipapadi, Bokgabo le Setšo. Ke a leboga.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Committee chairperson, the stage is yours.

**MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Caroline Mahasela, rise to present the second quarter of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture for the 2018/19 financial year to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you. Is there any seconder? Hon Ganny, you are recognised.

**MR MONAMA**

Siyabonga Somlomo, for the opportunity. My name is Rodgers Monama. I rise to second the chairperson of the portfolio committee for the adoption of the report. Thank you.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you. Committee chair, the stage is yours.

**MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Caroline Mahasela, rise to present the third quarter report of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture for the 2018/19 the financial year to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Mdaka, you are recognised.

**MR MDAKA**

I, Falaza Mdaka, rise to second the motion as raised by the chairperson of the committee. Thank you.

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Committee chair, the stage is yours.

**MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Mahlodi Caroline Mahasela, rise to present the fourth quarter report of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture for the 2018/19 financial year to this House for consideration and adoption. I so move, Hon Speaker.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Is there any seconder? Hon Selamolela, you are recognised.

### **MR SELAMOLELA**

Thank you, Hon Chair. I, Donald Selamolela, stand to second the motion by the chairperson of the portfolio committee, Hon Mahasela. Thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

We shall now refer to both the Speakers' List. Hon Violet Mathye, you are the first one. Remember for the 2018/19 the agreement is that we allocate three minutes to each speaker.

### **MS MATHYE**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. Allow me to join the other honourable Members who have greeted you; and again, wish our honourable MEC a wonderful happy birthday. As I open this debate, kindly allow me not to say much but quote Tata Nelson Mandela when he said: "Sport can create hope, where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than governments in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the face of all types of discrimination."

In the process of recruitments, the committee finds it hard to understand reasons for not appointing for managerial vacant posts. The department has been running with acting managers for the past financial year. The question remains, what are the actual requirements needed to fill up funded vacant posts in the main departments. They must seek clarity on what informs the possibility to fill the critical posts during 2019/20 financial year.

Honourable MEC, with the approval granted from **Provincial Personal Committee (PPC)** which is constituted by the Provincial Treasury and the Office of the Premier, the committee will be much pleased if the department can advertise those additional remaining posts. The filling of critical posts especially at senior management and management level is of paramount importance to bring stability and consistency in the department. The committee, however, applauds the MEC for the appointment of a new HOD, who is also a woman. The increase in women participation is the result of two main factors; first is due to the work of the women in the ANC who have been actively involved for decades in the struggle or national liberation and social emancipation.

Secondly, it is the result of the policies and affirmative action mechanism adopted by the ANC. The decision of roping in the Department of Treasury to assess effectiveness of the

identified mitigation will yield positive results in achieving clean audit. The committee encouraged the department to contact two asset verifications during the 2019/20 financial year. Lack of skills in asset management, supply chain management and lack of proper internal control systems are amongst the main challenges which prevented the department from achieving an unqualified audit outcome.

As much as we support the initiatives and the commitment made by the department we are as well very worried about the constant corrupt activities in the department in particular regarding, Mapungubwe Festival. The decision there needs to be a creation of an enabling environment for social cohesion and provisioning of **MUKUNDAMAGO** by establishing structures of civil society to improve levels of government and administration with sport, arts and culture not the other way round. Hon Speaker ... [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable Member, unfortunately your time has expired.

### **MS MONYAMANE**

Thank you very much, Hon Speaker.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

We shall now call upon, Hon Charles Mohlala. Your three minutes start now.

### **MR MOHLALA**

Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Greetings to the House, colleagues and the audience. Hon Speaker, the EFF is concerned that there is an underspending in the ICT infrastructure of R1,9 million in the department. We already know that no consequence management will apply to the officials involved in this shameful and scandalised act. Consequence management is just on paper, but in reality does not apply because officials just do as they wish and there is no punishment for wrongdoings.

The lack of resources in community libraries is cause for concern, because communities continue to be disadvantaged as they can't access information. Community libraries continue to experience shortage of qualified librarians, assistant librarians, computers and books. The weak ANC government does not even have a proper stock register to an extent that they don't know how many books they have in their libraries. Assets in the department cannot be accounted for in the asset register. There is a strong possibility that some thieves within the department masquerade as genuine officials could be stealing these assets or selling them off.

The department must furnish the House with the list of how many libraries were maintained and where these libraries are situated because millions were directed for these courses. We further would like to know which companies are awarded the tenders for the purpose and who are the directors of such companies. It is regrettable and unacceptable that the targeted vacant SMS posts were not filled as planned. The failure

to fill these posts has a direct negative bearing on service delivery and job creation and must never be allowed to happen. Those officials who are involved must be held accountable [inaudible] of what happened to the officials who sleep on duty. We have noted with concern that more than R3 million was spent on programme 2 as planned to the disadvantage of people especially the youth and women.

Cultural Affairs as part of our community and can't allowed the government to deprive them such opportunities. By failure to spend money to the benefit of the people, the government is directly sabotaging the service delivery. Hon Deputy Speaker, this department is notorious for providing the Auditor-General with misleading and untruthful information, giving the impression that all is well in the department. How do we trust them when they are not truthful with information? How do we even begin to trust the report they are presenting in the Legislature's committees?

The underspending of R36 million in the period under review in this department worries and can't be left unchallenged. Underspending is a serious negative implementation on service delivery and must be treated as the criminal act and those who are involved must face ... [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable Member, unfortunately your time has expired.

### **MR MOHLALA**

I thank you.

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you. We shall now call upon, Hon Phala to come and present.

### **MS PHALA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. Allow me to also wish the MEC a happy birthday. Hon Speaker, the department had planned to achieve an unqualified audit opinion for the year under review. However, it failed yet again as in the past seven years. On the brighter side, the department hosted the Cosafa Cup Tournament with 52 African states participating including Bafana Bafana. It must be greatly noted that the department also managed to implement the intellectually impaired sports tournament in volleyball, football and netball as the universal champion as well as the provincial deaf sport tournament in football and netball. There would be chess, tennis provincial tournament and the physically disabled sport tournament to recognise and promote talent for people with disability were also hosted.

The implementation of and hosting of the nation designed are stepping in the right direction by the department to promote social cohesion within the sporting fraternity. The Auditor-General's report in the year under review shows that the qualified opinion was based largely on assets that were not accounted for as some of the assets were not

included in the assets register. In the 2017/18, the Auditor-General's report set a variance on the value of library materials, accounting to over R7 million on which the cost of set of goods were incorrectly recorded as the unit cost of asset. The matter still remains unresolved during the 2018/19 financial year. The Auditor-General's 2018/19 report is reported findings and respect of the reliability of reported performances. On programme 3, the Auditor-General has said I did not find any material findings on the usefulness and reliability of this programme.

On programme 4, the department reported 52 640 as a number of people actively participating in organised sport and active recreation event in their annual performance report, however, the supporting documents indicated that 97 371. Hon Speaker, as I conclude, as the committee we had seven recommendations just to mention the few, but the challenges faced by the department with regard to financial management to ensure that financial statements are submitted to the Auditor-General's office comply with the prescripts and regulations have stipulated in the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA).

We further recommended that as the committee, we needed to prioritise oversight visits to verify what the department fit us in their reports. The committee has implemented these oversights despite a low attendance of honourable Members in the committee during the last few weeks as Members who were able to go to the oversight visits were: Runnymede, Mabelane, Seleteng, Mulamula in the past few days. The department through its Director Project Manager Mr Modjadji continuously offered an excuse that the delays were due to the COVID-19, although some of us individually went there before the lockdown. Thank you.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you. We shall now call upon, Hon Mahasela, or you will speak once at the end or what.

## **MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Speaker, Hon Rosemarry Molapo, Premier, Hon Stanley Chupu Mathabatha in absentia, Deputy Speaker, Hon Jeremiah Ndou, Members of the Executive Committee, Chief Whip of the majority party Essob Mokgonyana, Members of the Provincial Legislature, members of our chapter 9 and 10 institutions, mošate. I would also like to say happy birthday to our MEC of Sport, Arts and Culture, Hon Thandi Moraka.

Honourable Members, we are three weeks away from historic month popularly known as Heritage Month. It is a common knowledge that our provincial heritage is extremely rich and diverse. As a province, we are also faced with increasing challenges concerning the conservation and management of our heritage site in a rapid changing and developing environment which is characterised by a series of socioeconomic projects.

That is one aspect to champion if you want to effectively improve the youth of heritage as resource, to reduce poverty and stimulate sustainability, hence, the committee recommends that the department need to speed up the refurbishment of Motumo Trading

Post along N1 in Botlokwa. Having engaged the department and scrutinised the departmental 2018/19 fourth quarter, the committee has recommended that the department should maintain, upgrade and equip Motumo Trading Post at all costs to ensure it contribute effectively and efficiently to the educational development of Botlokwa communities.

As highlighted in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and amended provide in section 114 that the Legislature has to ensure that all state organs in the province must be accountable and should maintain oversight of the executive authority including the implementing of Legislate.

Madam Speaker, as procedural, the department briefed the portfolio committee on its 2018/19 fourth quarter report to its consideration. Madam Speaker, perhaps the Legislature ... [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable Member, you said Madam Speaker.

### **MS MAHASELA**

Okay, Hon Speaker, perhaps the Legislature must peruse on how the involvement of traditional authorities that should take part in all this programme and further partner with leaders of the society across all sectors of our communities in order to ensure maximum impact. In his words Premier, Hon Stanley Chupu Mathabatha, directed us that, "We must indeed never rest until our people are free from poverty, inequality and are enjoying equal access to opportunities."

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Unfortunately, your time has expired.

### **MS MAHASELA**

The department plans to implement two capacity building programmes during the third quarter but exceeded this target by one.

In conclusion, Members must know that the commemoration of 23 and half years of the Constitution can no longer be on paper but heard and held in high esteem by fellow South Africans ... [INTERJECTION]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Honourable Member, your time has expired.

### **MS MAHASELA**

I thank you. Le rata go ntšhošetša.

## THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Honourable Members, we have been given the time limits. We didn't determine them, and please if we can all stick to the time limits. Order please! Order, Hon Phala please. Can we proceed to the 2019/20 debates? We have already adopted the reports. Can we have, Hon David Selane? Your ten minutes starts now.

## MR SELANE

Thank you, Hon Speaker. We are trying to make the use of technology for the first time and we hope for the future. Greetings Hon Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, Hon Premier in absentia, chairperson of the portfolio committee, honourable Members of this majestic august House. After the consideration of the reports, the portfolio committee in this historic month celebrate the life and time of one of our giants, a global champion of human rights and development, comrade Oliver Reginald Tambo. His legacy still lives on, because he left us with a significant and permanent heritage which enhance our constitution and contribute towards inclusive and equitable policies of our own democratic government. Oliver Reginald Tambo was shaped by his rural surroundings as a boy, a teacher, a scientist, a lawyer, a diplomat and a revolutionary intellectual and a fighting force, of course a unifier.

There would be no chapter ever written without reference to Oliver Reginald Tambo, whether before joining the ANC or after, because he has been the centre of attraction as an example of a perfect team player. The ANC has dedicated this October month the birth month of O R Tambo, to celebrate his life as one of the greatest leader amongst the generation of great freedom fighters. Oliver Reginald Tambo understood that arts and culture are integral part of community development. The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture has of course a legislative mandate premise on the constitution and is guaranteed on the social security. This department has been assigned with the powers and function to develop and implement provincial policies and programme regarding cultural affairs, sports and recreation in the province.

This is one of the departments in the province that has received qualified audit opinion as expostulated by the Auditor-General report and its findings. It is imperative for the department of course, to work tirelessly and show a serious commitment to improve its standing society for the benefit of our people. This has been over emphasised by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the Auditor-General, but the department must take of course its work very serious. Despite the findings of the Auditor-General and the Scopa resolution, the committee has long expressed itself on the failure of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture to implement consequence management. Coincidentally, both Scopa and the Auditor-General have come to the risk of the portfolio committee to confirm its expression regarding consequence management. The department has a tendency of exonerating responsibility especially, in cases affecting its operations.

We have learned with disgust and dismay that the department continue to refer most of the cases to the Office of the Premier and what we know is that the Office of the Premier

has got lots of cases which are still unresolved and therefore, a blame cannot in actual fact be apportioned to the Office of the Premier, because these at the end might sound as if the department is practising selective justice for the protection of friends who are corrupt and their syndicate. We have witnessed and noted some unnecessary delays and unreasonable tactics displayed by the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, particularly on the non-payment of the artists who are vulnerable during this painful period of the pandemic. The department has spent almost six consecutive months without paying the artists and other suitable beneficiaries of the COVID-19 programmes.

The delays were caused nearly by the political and administrative dynasties dominating the discourse of our own provincial department. However, we must register the fact that after the portfolio committee has robustly engage with the department, there was of course the programme regarding the payment of those beneficiaries. We must appreciate the work done by the department so far in identifying and building attractive libraries in the province especially in rural villages. This shows the commitment by the ANC-led government to serve the people of Limpopo with pride and lead with courage. The libraries are the epic centre of information and knowledge productions. They are creator to help our community to gain new knowledge of skills and personal development at the centre of their establishment, there must be accessible to our communities. However, we know the technical delays on the completion of these libraries, due to the outsourcing of power particularly the technical and construction management, because we have already outsourced the power to the IDT, thus where in fact there is lack of accountability and no one is taking responsibility. The results of these great arrangements are that most of the schools and libraries would be unnecessarily of course reasonable being delayed because power is being outsourced in our province. The fact that the case of Mulamula Dumela Library has been laid to rest by the court, signified the fact that the department has done everything in its power to put the interests of the people first. We acknowledged that most of the activities with the department were being compromised by the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the department must accelerate its work to the completion of all projects which they have started over the past two years.

The department must begin to do their work seriously and appoint contractors in time and monitor their work so that they can complete their work without unnecessarily delays. The building of the provincial theatre has always been a call from the speech of the Premier and the MEC of Sport, Arts and Culture. We are happy that feasibility study has been completed, and it is incumbent upon the department to commence with the work. It is of paramount importance that the department must commence with the work of building the provincial theatre to keep the standard of our province very high. Like we have said in as much as we are saying, happy birthday to the MEC. The problem with this particular department, I want to quote one liberal scholar whom in the field of public administration named, Woodrow Wilson, who characterised the organisation as a melting pot with a multidisciplinary character. His understanding of political and administrative dichotomy or interface is that there must be distinction between administrators and politicians.

The role of administrators is to carry out the policies and functions of government and not act like politicians. Administrators ought to know what is right and what is wrong informed by the legislative and other policy mandate. Woodrow Wilson, goes further to say that politicians deployed or responsible for the department, has to understand the politics and

the vision surrounding the department in order to carry out mandate without fail. It is important for the administrators to work with any leader who is deployed in the department and not act as if they are politicians. This will minimise the political and administrative dynasties which are per regulating within the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture so that we are able to achieve a clean audit. Hon Speaker, if indeed the HOD stop to act like politician and work according to the legislative and policy mandate, and the MEC do what is deployed, this department of course will achieve a clean audit without any failure. Thank you very much. [APPLAUSE]

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much, Hon Selane. We shall now call upon, Hon Mohlala.

### **MR MOHLALA**

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. Greetings once more to the House. Hon Deputy Speaker, the EFF is concerned about the slow pace of actualisation of 40% female representation in the Senior Managerial positions in the period under review. It is clear that there is no intention by the government to implement redress in order to give women equal opportunities with their male counterparts. The government continues to uphold patriarchal structure in society where men are deemed to be more superior to women. It is more surprising that in some sectors women continued to earn less than their male counterparts doing the same job.

The non-achievement of target by the department is unacceptable because it delays service delivery when the people need it so much especially the poor. It deprives logic that government sets up plans and targets and only to sabotage them while the people on the ground continue to suffer. The failure to achieve targets is some amount adjudicating of duty by government towards its citizens. It should be noted by this House, that government is not doing to the people any favour by providing services to them. Government has a considered obligation to provide basic services to the people through taxes paid to government by the citizens.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Limpopo Provincial Theatre is a far-fetched dream that is forever as long that never guess to be played. The government has a tendency of playing with the emotions of citizens promising those things that never happened. The delay in the construction of such theatre denies many young people an opportunity to unleash and showcase their talents. Many young people in the province don't have theatres where their talents can be properly polished for their own benefits and the province. The department promising this House progress reports in relation these projects in dealing to what causes the delay to an extent that the projects can even take off the ground. We are equally concerned that when young people approach department with proposals to start cultural projects of basis they don't get assistance.

The EFF government will build theatres within all five regions of the province, to create opportunities for young people to make their dreams come true. This initiative will take young people off the streets and focus them on things that matters most to their lives and that can bring bread on the table. I will further reveal that social incline in our communities

will further reduce the social incline in our committees and create a crime free and peaceful society with young people that are better mind to make the best out of life. The EFF government will walk the talk and funding for such projects that are in the best interests of young people and their livelihood. We will give the maximum support and make sure that their projects benefit the community. I thank you.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you for that debate. We shall now call upon, Hon Phala.

## **MS PHALA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker. The department large under expenditure the end of all protocols was very concerning towards to us as a committee. The department had failed to spend R60,6 million on this accounts for 11% of the annual budget. The under expenditure on the library information services programme was the main contributor with only 73% of the budget used. The under expenditure on this programme to the amount of R50 million was mainly attributed to library material not being procured. Contractors experiencing cash flow problems, work interruptions on site by labours demanding high labour rates and committees purchase and the late appointment of contractors.

Hon Speaker, across all four quarters, the department indicated challenges than delays in filling of posts. The department also indicated that the process to recruit people had been affected by Covid-19 restrictions and the department would expedite the filling of the vacant posts after the lifting of the lockdown. The department only manage to achieve 32% equity representation in senior management services at the end of the fourth quarter and this is not good. The strategic plan of the department indicated that it is the five-year plan and that the 40% equity representation will be reached by June 2021. The department managed to maintain three museums namely: Dzata Museum, Schoemansdal Museum and Muti wa Vatsonga Museum during the fourth quarter. It is important that the report also indicated that the department achieved its annual target of hosting 15 multi equalising promotion campaign and manage to meet the target of supporting five previously marginalised indigenous languages was achieved.

The report further also indicated that the department further under achieved in its plan to upgrade two public libraries for public namely: Sekhukhune and Haenertsburg libraries. It did not meet these targets. The report indicated that during the financial year, eight libraries would be maintained by the department in the areas of Lebowakgomo, Modimolle, Jane Furse, Moutse, Vaalwater, Thulamela, Nzhelele and Fetakgomo, but did not achieve these targets. The department achieved its annual targets of R21,300 as part of the club. Development programme at the end of the fourth quarter. Those who have managed to achieve its target to support 500 athletes through the sport academy. 1 420 schools, humps were provided with equipment and attire during the period under review.

The fourth quarter 39% were supported to address the backlog from previous quarter. There was also an over achievement in the departments' target of training 950 people to develop school sports. They expedite the target by training 801 more people. Implementation of the committees' recommendations in particular providing charity on the

utilisation of the money budgeted for the multi-year project revising the planning and implementation of infrastructure projects to ensure timeous completion of libraries and other projects as well as filling the senior managerial posts which would bring about stability and consistency in different programmes and improving the overall performance of the department. Thank you.

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you, Hon Phala. I now call upon, Hon Caroline Mahasela. You have got 10 minutes this time around. It is all yours.

## **MS MAHASELA**

Thank you, Hon Speaker, and all Members in this House, aa! Mitambo, vhutsila na mvelele ndi zwa ndeme vhukuma kha mitakalo yashu, ndi sa hangwi na kha u ṫuṭuwedza vhudziki na u bveledza tshitshavha tshashu.

Hon Speaker, the department managed to spend 71% of its allocated budget under programme 1 which is administration. The department indicated that there was a delay in the implementation of infrastructure and governance projects. Having engaged the department and scrutinised the department 2019/20 first quarter, the committee has recommended that the department should strengthen their supply chain management system, **which is number 1, number 2, they must avoid underspending. Number 3**, the department is further encouraged to stick to the 30 days payment of invoices of the service providers of which progress was made in the third quarter and under review.

Hon Speaker, given that the Limpopo remains the home of champions and maker of the competitive sports in the country, Limpopo is also the creative powers of our country at the fountain of the creative industry. Our success in building Limpopo to be the home of champions and home of the creative industries is as a result of strong partnership that we have built with our stakeholders. Let it be a plan to make sure that this province becomes a global leader in research and technology which will attract new companies and high wage jobs in Limpopo. It must be a plan to put folks back to work including our veterans rebuilding our roads and our bridges and other infrastructure, and it must be a plan to reduce our deficit in a balanced way.

In Cultural Affairs, the purpose of this programme is to conserve and promote cultural affairs as well as to manage heritage resources in the province. The programme also promotes multilingualism and render language services to the people in the province of Limpopo. This programme consists of the following sub-programmes: Arts and Culture; Museum Services; Heritage Resource Services; and Language Services.

The department expenditure for the second and third quarter of 2019/20, the department spent 66% of its annual budget on various programmes at the end of third quarter amounting to R350 million. On programme 1 of the department spent 71% of its annual budget, on programme 2 65% and 58% on programme 3 which is library services.

The department targets to organise one exchange programme during the quarter under review and manage to achieve this target as a total cost of R8,317. The remaining budget for this performance indicator is R257 million out of an annual budget of R325 million. The annual target of organising three exchanging programmes were achieved during the first, second and third quarter. The department should clarify the nature of the exchanged programme and who benefited from each, as well as how the outstanding budget of R257 000 will be spent. The purpose of this programme is to provide free equitable accessible library services and promotion of a sustainable reading culture to empower especially the youth and people with disability. The programme further provides archives services in terms of the National Archives and Records Service Act, 1996 (Act 43 of 1996) as amended.

Honourable Members, the issue of appropriate furniture in the library still protrudes. In Kgapane Library, the chairs are plastics and are not conducive for the reader. Observation of books availability there were no academic books, only fiction books were available and they are about 1 000 at almost all visited libraries, and during the visit, they were very few. The utility rate drops automatically when during the visit, they were less linked to internet. The most impressive development is that, most libraries have internet access and is benefiting the students a lot especially the Grade 12 for research purposes, but the shortcoming is that the internet was cut off and only to be repaired in late August 2019 between exams at Flackfontein library. The committee was displeased on this occurrence due to the defeat of purpose.

The committee observed with concern that the level of expenditure in this programme is low when compared to other programmes, and the department should ensure that there is improved spending. As we all know that the main source of departmental own revenue is entrance fees for Mapungubwe Arts Festival, without any fear of favour, the corruption related to Mapungubwe Arts Festival is a worrying factor and need to be named and shamed. Hon Speaker, **Chester A. Arthur** when talking to issues we are raising one third, the extravagance of public money is an evil not to be measured by the value of that money to the people who are taxed for it. The NDP enjoins us to build an active citizenry that participate in democratic governance structures and takes responsibility for their own development. The committee recommends that the department and municipalities must sign the SLA coalition conclusion of the financial year 2017/18 and have them as operating documents. The oversight in future to priorities availabilities of the SLA for all libraries.

The department to spend fruitfully and standardised costs for services rendered to them and improved planning in order to circumvent pressure under expenditure thus engaging its fiscal damping. Infrastructure management unit in the department should work in conjunction with DPW on projects that affects performance and service delivery. The failure effect should be the thing of the past and welcoming of integrated planning to suffice.

Nga u angaredza, riñe sa Komiti ya Mitambo, Vhutsila, Mvelele na Vhufa ro difunga kha u bveledzisa iyi mbekanyamushumo. Ri do dovha hafhu ra dzhiele nzhele vhukondi vhune muhasho uyu wa tangana naho. Ri tikedza na u shumisana na vafaramikovhe

vhothe. Ri na fhulufhelo uri ri do kona u bveledzisa tshipikwa itshi tsha u bveledzisa lushaka. I thank you. [APPLAUSE]

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much. We shall now call the MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Hon Moraka.

[SONG]

Let's have order. Can we have order please! We only called the MEC to respond. MEC, you can proceed.

## **THE MEC FOR SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE**

Can I be protected, Hon Deputy Speaker? Thanks very much ... [INTERJECTION]

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Hon Seshoka, you are out of order. Honourable Members, please can we have order so that the MEC can respond. Hon Selamolela, can we have order so that MEC, Hon Moraka can respond. Hon Mathe, Hon Selamolela please!

## **THE MEC FOR SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE**

Thank you very much, Hon Speaker and Chief Whip of the ruling party, Hon Essob Mokgonyana. My colleagues in the Executive Council and esteemed Members of this House. Allow me once more to greet you on a special occasion of my birthday, and I want to really appreciate the well wishes from colleagues with regard to this special day. However, Hon Speaker, I'm not here for that exercise. I am going to try my level best to respond to the questions as raised and matters of emphasis as raised by members of the Portfolio Committee of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture in Limpopo.

Hon Speaker, I want to emphasise the issue that Section 114 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, is very clear on how we need to be held accountable as members of the executive authority by the portfolio committee through this august House which is the Legislature. Some of us have really understand the mandate of the Legislature and of the portfolio committee. I want to assure Members that indeed their inputs in this reports that are tabled here today are well received and are going to be given the much needed attention they deserve, because they are going to help us as the department to continue to achieve our mandate in as far as issues of National Development Plan on outcome 14, that speaks about social cohesion and nation building which is the mandate of this Department of Sport, Arts and Culture.

We want to assure Members that where we are, we really are working towards addressing all the historic challenges that have been in the department. In particular, on issues of instability on leadership pertaining to the administration of the department. You will know that historically, this department has never had an HOD that served in the department or

in the provincial government for a period of five years. They had been some elements of instability of leadership in the administration wing of the department. Those matters have since been raised with the EXCO through the Office of the Premier to help us to address those issues, because it has got its own negative impacts in as far as the processes of running a smooth, administration of the department are concerned.

Hon Mohlala is speaking about issues of underspending on ICT infrastructure programmes. He is also talking about lack of resources in our public libraries in particular issues of personnel and books that he is raising here in the House. I want to fully agree with the honourable Member, to say that indeed issues of lack of adequate resources in our libraries is a matter that we have managed to identify as the department. There is progress in this regard, Hon Speaker, because where we are sitting, the issue of furniture for the libraries is being attended to. If Members feel strongly that they need an update with regard to that particular process, we are going to come back here and furnish the Members with that particular detailed update in as far as issues of procurement of furniture for all our libraries.

On issues of personnel, we need to appreciate the fact that indeed COVID-19 has affected all of us as various departments, and the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture is no exception to that particular impact of COVID-19. We know that earlier this year, there were processes of budget cuts that were effected by our Provincial Treasury. As the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, we were expected to contribute almost 13% of our budget back to treasury towards processes of fighting and dealing with Covid-19 in the province, and that on its own Hon Speaker, the percentage of that particular 13% is amongst to almost to R179 million, and of which all of it when we look at it, was cut from key programmes like your administration as a programme and also on other programmes that are service delivery related.

We want to assure Members that where we are sitting, we are busy interacting with the provincial treasury in the province, the MEC and also his team through our bilateral that we held this week to indicate to them that we need to work together in order to develop a recovery plan for this department, because we know that the wellbeing of our communities, the wellbeing of our people on the ground depend solemnly on the progress of this department. If we can't prioritise this department in our economic recovery plan, all of us must then understand that we are going to from time to time be subjected to issues of gender-based violence as a matter of fatigue from our people, those that have been affected negatively mentally by the lockdown as it was pronounced by our National Command Council and ultimately, our Provincial Command Council that is led by our Hon Premier.

I want to indicate that indeed the effect of COVID-19 is being felt by us as a sector of Sport, Arts and Culture. We were told that we had to put on hold critical programmes and all our activities and even now on Lockdown Alert Level 1, we are still restricted to deliver our programmes as planned by the department in terms of what is entails in our Annual Performance Plan. We want to believe that all these issues, no one new that there would be COVID-19 that will affect our country and our province. We never in anyway anticipated that our artists are going to be affected in a negative way by this global pandemic.

We are working tirelessly to meet our artists halfway, because you will recall Hon Speaker that our Minister, Hon Mthethwa, when the lockdown was pronounced by the President around March, he called for COVID-19 relief applications from our people in the Sector of Sport, Arts and Culture and that process was concluded and I'm pleased to indicate that as a Province of Limpopo, we have seen many artists and our athletes benefiting from that particular initiative, and we came back as the province and looked at the impact of the COVID-19 Relief Funds that was pronounced by our Minister. We realise that due to issues of us as a province being a rural province. We have seen a situation wherein our artists and our athletes were unable to submit their requests for relief fund that was pronounced by the MEC this year around June. Due to issues of us being a rural province you will find a cultural group that is there at Zingi Zingi village is struggling to submit their request for COVID-19 relief funds due to issues of lack of ICT infrastructure in those rural villages. That is because the criterion was tedious and was not user friendly to our people in the Sector of Sport arts and Culture.

I am pleased to report today that on 15 October which happens to be the birthday of the MEC we have managed to pay almost 70% of all the people who have applied for the relief fund in the province of Limpopo. Other artists are going to be paid on the next run which will happen on 30 October 2020.

I want to reiterate that the wellbeing of our people in the sector of Sport, Arts and Culture is the responsibility that needs to be embraced by all of us. It should not be left to the department alone to deal with. We are jointly going to be attending to these matters in the coming Executive Council meeting with the Premier and make it a point that we come up with ways and mechanisms on how we can mitigate against the effect of COVID-19 on our people.

On matters of consequence management, I want to indicate to the Members of this august House to say that consequence management must be implemented by all of us regardless of who is said to have been violating the regulations of Public Finance Management Act. We are going to implement consequence management as directed by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (Scopa), because failure for us to implement consequence management we will never attain clean audit and issues of clean governance in the province of Limpopo. Rest assured honourable Members, issues of consequence management are receiving the necessary attention they deserve, and we are going to make sure that heads are rolling irrespective of whether it is the HOD or the MEC that is found to be on the wrong side of the law.

As I conclude, the issue of differentiation of roles by the accounting officer and the executive authority I believe that it was brought to the House in a particular way. I want to believe that the roles are well understood by both of us, the MEC and the HOD. We know our boundaries in terms of how we need to be reporting in terms of the public service management regulation. There is no confusion in that regard Hon Selane. Rest those assured are receiving the necessary attention. Gone are the days wherein we will have to appear before the portfolio committee differing in the manner in which we did in the previous engagements between ourselves and yourselves.

I want to agree fully with the chairperson of the portfolio committee to say that Limpopo is the home of champions and the home of cultural diversity. We need to continue occupying that space as a province of Limpopo wherein we must continue to feed South Africa with our young talent that we are continually unearthing on the ground.

Today we are speaking here when Master KG is making hits globally through his "Jerusalema" song. He is coming from Limpopo. We have been celebrating Sho Madjozi, we have been celebrating all other artist in the province that are making us proud in the international space. All these things are happening because the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture is hard at work with regard to the process of realising its own mandate. I am also speaking about people like our Caster Semenya, our Noko Matlou and many more artists that are coming from the province.

Indeed, we are going to make it a point that we continue to occupy the space in as far as issues of sport and recreation are concerned; and in as far as issues of creative industry are concerned. I want to take this opportunity and appreciate all the inputs made by honourable Members and I want to assure them that going forward all these issues are going to be a matter of yesterday because we are working tirelessly to make it a point that we address all the concerns that are made in this House so that going forward we can move together all of us towards issues of realising a more united Limpopo province of our country. Thank you very much. [APPLAUSE]

## **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

Thank you very much, honourable MEC. We decided not to interrupt you because it is your birthday today. Also, happy belated birthday to Hon Nkakareng Rakgoale who was celebrating yesterday.

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Honourable Members we have come to the end of business of today. As Members go out, there is food that has been prepared. It is outside on the right-hand side, there is a table there. Please pick up and enjoy the meal.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The House is adjourned until Tuesday, 20 October 2020 at 10:00 in this Lebowakgomo Legislative Chamber.

**[THE HOUSE IS ADJOURNED]**