



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Statement
04 March 2022

PREMIER MATHABATHA BELIEVES LEGISLATURE ENGAGEMENT IMPROVES SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE

Limpopo Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha has expressed gratitude for the vigorous debate in the Limpopo Legislature during his response to the debate on Thursday, 03 March 2022.

“This debate, Honourable members, helps to improve service provision and improve on the livelihood of the people of the province. This is a steppingstone towards moving the province forward under the challenging socio-economic conditions brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are convinced that Limpopo will rise from the ashes of the devastation caused by coronavirus to embark on a fresh journey of socio-economic development,” said Premier Mathabatha.

Premier Mathabatha further said: “Honourable members are in agreement that we urgently need to focus more of our energies on the implementation of measures which are focused on economic development, geared towards fighting the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality”.

“As we have mentioned during SOPA 2022, our mission to steer our economy to a green, resilient and inclusive developmental trajectory, in line with the National Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan and the Limpopo Socio-economic Recovery Plan, is well on track. In addition, our mission to position Limpopo as an investment destination of choice, aimed at enhancing much needed creation of employment, particularly for our youth, remain our collective target.”

Various political parties had responded to the Premier’s State of the Province Address on Tuesday, 01 March 2022. Some parties heaped praise on the Premier whilst others were cautious in accepting the Premier’s speech.

It was considering some of the questions that Premier Mathabatha hastened to indicate that whilst significant progress has been made in some areas, there are others that require urgent attention. He said that the interest shown by the people of Limpopo calls on government to move with swiftly in the implementation of Fourth Industrial Revolution and its motivation for implement as a matter of urgency. More details on the digitalization project will be shared when departmental budget votes are presented.

Addressing question about water provision, Premier Mathabatha said: “We have already adopted the Limpopo Water Master Plan and Spatial Development Framework. One of the motives behind the adoption of this important framework, was to provide for medium to long term development trajectory, on the provisioning of water network for industrialization, poverty reduction and to redress the existing levels of inequality in our province. Our team is focused on ensuring and sustaining that integrated plans, efficient and ineffective project management, in terms of water service delivery mandate is achieved.”

On boosting the economy and job creation, Premier Mathabatha told members that his cabinet and people of Limpopo share common vision about the Musina-Makhado and Fetakgomo-Tubatse Special Economic Zones. The two projects are economic catalytic projects. Therefore, in giving concrete expression towards the province’s resolve on socio-economic trajectory of Limpopo, all people need to embrace the SEZs and support their existence.

Premier Mathabatha also used the response to recap on the commitment the provincial government is making in the following:

- The Spaza Shop relieve fund, will be accordingly distributed among all the deserving beneficiaries;
- The incubation support for the SMMEs, particularly those which are youth owned, will be sustained;
- The mining sector, will be supported to ensure that young people get jobs, that the people of Limpopo are empowered economically and that, they fulfil their Social Labour Plans commitment of skills development;
- The agricultural sector will continue to unleash variety of projects in line with the prescripts of the country’s laws, guided by their primary objective of ensuring food security and growing the economy;
- Traditional Leaders will continue receiving the existing systematic intervention from the provincial government;
- Military veterans across all party political lines, will continue being hailed and appreciated as our heroes and heroines of the liberation struggle;
- The forth-coming Education Indaba on 10 March 2022, should not be a meeting of old friends, rather the Lekgotla should come with practical means of retrieving Limpopo out of its misery of poor performance;
- The people of Limpopo have sent members of this august house, to inform our councillors that their election into councils is not a personal achievement, rather a mandate to serve them with love and care. We will continue reminding them about it;
- The people want a disclaimer free Limpopo, with quality audit opinions, to translate this success into the provisioning of quality basic services, and the provincial government will strive to achieve that;
- Honourable members, in response to SOPA 2022, the people have overwhelmingly stated that they need quality roads at their respective areas,

- and we are saying that the message is loud and clear and that this government has a plan;
- The people of Limpopo want government to fight against coronavirus so that they can reclaim the livelihoods and go back to fully functioning economy, and through the efforts as championed by the National Department of Health, we are certain that Limpopo shall rise;
 - We have committed ourselves to achieve a capable, ethical and developmental state, free from corruption, fraud and maladministration. Today we stand before you to recommit ourselves to that generational decision;
 - We reiterate of resolve to fight viciously against gender-based violence and femicide, and we are calling upon every member of society to stop the talk and act against gender-based violence and the killing of innocent women and children; and
 - This government will continue passing laws that are pro-poor, with the intention to assist the needy and the marginalized majority. We will continue offering social grants, school nutrition, scholar transport and no-fee schools.

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Issued by the Limpopo Provincial Government

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