

STATE OF THE PROVINCE ADDRESS DEBATE SPEECH BY LIMPOPO
EDUCATION MEC MAVHUNGU LERULE-RAMAKHANYA.

Honourable Speaker
Deputy Speaker
Chief Whip of the Majority Party
Honourable Premier Stanely Chupu Mathabatha
Hon MECs
Hon. Members
The Chairperson of the Potfolio committee & members
Members of the Media & people following us on Social Media

Let me take this opportunity to thank and appreciate the honourable Premier, Stanely Chupu Mathabatha for the diligence and 11 years of selfless dedication to changing the lives of our people in the Province. We will forever be indebted to you for steering the ship out of the mud when you took over in 2013.

You came at the time when the Province needed a visionary and a committed leader with a proper administration skills to lead us. Equipped with the strategy & tactics of the National Democratic Revolution , Your story is similar to that of Moses who had a mammoth task of rescuing the Israelites from the stubborn Pharoah regime. We are told that after the rescue, some of the people who were enslaved in Egypt turned against him and demanded to be taken back to slavery.

It is the case with some of our colleagues in the house honourable Speaker, they are never appreciative or satisfied of the milestones that we have achieved in the past 30 years.

Honourable speaker, As the premier also quoted the president, Confidential Information - This is for official consumption

In his state of the Nation Address, his excellency President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa narrated a good story of Tintswalo, a young girl who was born at the dawn of democracy and grew up under the caring ANC led government. A story that many of us, including my colleagues at the opposite benches can attest to. Each one of us in this house,has a good story of a friend, relative or a colleague whose lives changed due to the support system that the ANC led government has put in place. Because the government understand pillar four of their manifesto that says Invest in People and Meet basic needs.

You are today like those who along the way decided to turn against your liberators and deliberately keep a blind eye to all the good deeds delivered by the democratic government. The lives of our people changed for the better and we know it is only the ANC led government that has tangible plans to continue serving the multitudes of our people.

Honourable Speaker the Premier was Spot on when he gave a breakdown of the strides made in the Education Sector since 1994.

We are still beaming with pride following a massive matric pass percentage. We are today counted amongst the top performers.

Hon Premier because of your persistent & leadership we provided all our learners with meals, stationery, scholar transport, MST programs interventions . Today Limpopo can confirm that we have always been consistent on quality pass rate against all odds. We are a Province on the rise and the accolades must go to the Premier and all the team Education working tirelessly to change their own lives and that of the community.

Honourable speaker, 2023 was declared a year of School Infrastructure and just like the honourable Premier said, we have lived to all the promises made. We are moving our children out of mud schools and horrible pit latrines.

Honourable Speaker,

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We have also made strides in the provision of proper sanitation for our learners, especially the little happy feet in the foundation phase. the safety and dignity of our learners is a priority and we have made a significant progress in the reduction of pit latrines.

We will turn our focus to schools with inadequate sanitation.

These are schools with a combination of old and new sanitation facilities. I must indicate honourable Speaker, that despite the glaring hardwork and strides made in the past 30 years, we have people who are going all out to tarnish our record. There is a Political Party represented in this August house, that in the past two years, they have never appreciated the infrastructure projects that we handed over to our communities. They are directing their energy to just one isolated incident and beam the negative side of the coin. They are giving a wrong narrative about the infrastructure in the Province. I challenge them to visit some of our best schools such as Malamulele high, Ngwanalaka, John Xikundu and Rivoni school for the blind just to name a few.

Just like the people we read about in the Bible, you want to take our children back to mud schools, you want to see them walking long distances to school, staying at school for more than six hours without food and learning under trees. The narrative that you are giving is of a backward Province that is resisting transformation and not caring about the future leaders. We want to level the narration by siding with the Premier on the bright side

of our achievements in the past 3 decades. As the department of Education, we are vested with a responsibility to groom our children from the ECD level to Matric. Just like what

Democracy produced in Tintswalo, she is our firstborn daughter the siblings behind her, im sure others like Willem & Petrus, Tebego & Tshedza

In conclusion honourable speaker , we are always told that a good dancer knows when to leave the stage. Some dancers are so good that you would wish they could occupy the stage for little longer to reap the fruits of their hard work.

Honourable Premier,

Confidential Information - This is for official consumption you have led us well, you are exemplary to many of us. I wish, we wish, and the opposition also wishes that you can occupy the stage for a little longer because they know that under your leadership, the Province is stable and the lives of our people have changed for the better.

President XI JINPING in his books The Governance of China says “ we will not be able to achieve greater success unless we have a clear understanding of our history and the roads we have traveled”

Let's all join hands as we Defend Democracy and Advance Freedom, Lets not leave anyone behind.

I thank you!!