



**LIMPOPO**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**TO ALL MEDIA**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RADZILANI OUTRAGED BY CRIME RIDDEN WEEKEND**

The MEC responsible for Social Development, Ms Florence Radzilani is outraged by the past weekend littered with crime ranging from rape and murder including the killing of a year-old toddler. In the latest incident which happened yesterday, a year-old toddler was allegedly strangled and killed.

According to Police reports a 22-year-old male suspect allegedly strangled the toddler at Zuma view in Bela Bela. The suspect apparently entered the room of the victim in which he was sleeping and strangled him. The victim's mother sought the help from the grandfather who managed to push the suspect away. The victim was rushed to hospital where he later passed away.

The suspect was arrested and will appear before Bela Bela Magistrate's Court on charges of murder this morning. The enraged Radzilani expressed that. "What kind of a human being brutally attacks and kills an innocent toddler this way. This is preposterous and it must be condemned in the strongest possible terms," said Radzilani. The MEC added that while she is pleased that the suspect has been arrested, she hopes for a positive conviction and a sentence which will bring justice to the victim and his family.

In another incident a 17-year-old teenage girl was allegedly raped and robbed at Moletji Monywaneng yesterday. According to the Police, the victim was on his way to buy electricity when an unknown suspect approached her. The suspect apparently demanded money, dragged her into the bush and allegedly raped her and fled on foot. Radzilani has called on the public to help with information which will result in the arrest and positive conviction of the suspect.

The MEC was further outraged by the two reports involving the murder of two victims both of who died from being stabbed. In the first incident a 42-year-old woman was allegedly stabbed and killed by a 48-year-old suspect. According to the Police, the deceased was found in a pool of blood after the Police responded to a complaint of a person being attacked at her place.

In an intelligence driven search, the suspect was arrested and positively linked to the crime while in his hideout in Nebo. The MEC made an impassioned plea that domestic tiffs between partners doesn't have to lead to the loss of life. "In the event of differences between partners they need to seek the services of our social workers who will intervene and positively lead to amicable resolution of the differences. "No partner must lose their life as a result of differences which can easily be resolved," said Radzilani.

In the last incident, a lifeless body of a 30-year-old woman was discovered along R81 towards Xitlhelani village in the Malamulele Policing area. The victim who was identified as Grammy Mthombeni was found with multiple stab wounds and circumstance surrounding the incident is currently unknown. The MEC described these incidences as horrendous and unnecessary. She called on the public to help with information in order for the suspect who stabbed Mthombeni to be apprehended.

**For further information contact**

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