

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA ADVISORY

TO ALL MEDIA 25 APRIL 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RADZILANI ENRAGED BY THE RAPE OF TWO MINORS IN SEPARATE INCIDENCES

The MEC responsible for Social Development in Limpopo, Ms Florence Radzilani, has expressed outrage and deep sorrow in response to the recent incidents of rape involving two minors in the province.

In the first incident, a 5-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a 35-year-old scholar transporter in Mafefe village between January and March this year. According to Police reports the suspect allegedly raped the victim after picking her up from school. The Police further report that the suspect apparently dropped off the other children in their respective home. Meanwhile instead of dropping the victim off, he allegedly raped her inside the vehicle before dropping her off. The victim was then threatened not to report the incident to anyone; however, she disclosed to her grandmother who swiftly notified the Police who later apprehended the suspect.

In another incident, a 14-year-old girl was a victim of statutory rape by a 22-year-old man. According to Police reports the victim travelled from Phadzima village visiting her friend at Maelula village.

When she wanted to return home, she apparently failed to get transport as it was late and decided to sleep over at the suspect's place who allegedly raped her. She reported the matter to her grandmother who rushed to the local Police and reported the matter. The suspect was later arrested and appeared before Mphephu Regional Court. His case was postponed to the 02 May 2025 for bail application.

Reacting to the two incidences, MEC Radzilani unequivocally condemned these heinous acts of gender-based violence and sexual assault. She said it is inconceivable that those who prey on minors walk among us, and it is time we confront this reality head-on. Radzilani called on men to take a stand against gender-based violence. "To the men in our society, I call upon you to take a firm stand against gender-based violence and the sexual assault of minors. This is not merely a women's issue; it is a crisis that demands the attention and action of all men. We must collectively reject this culture of violence and do more than just speak out we must act," Said

She welcomed the arrest of the suspects in both incidents, adding that justice must be served with appropriate sentence congruent to the pain inflicted by these acts of criminality.

For further information contact

For further information contact
Joshua Kwapa
Department of Social Development Media liaison officer
082 439 1455
066 497 6282