

MEDIA STATEMENT

For immediate release

13 October 2025

MEC KEKANA CONDEMNS FARM KILLING-CALLS FOR HARSH ACTION AGAINST FATHER OF 11-YEAR-OLD BOY WHO PULLED THE TRIGGER

Polokwane-The Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD) MEC Nakedi Kekana condemns in the strongest terms the killing of a farm labourer, allegedly by an 11-year-old boy who was apparently shooting at guinea fowl on a farm in Thabazimbi.

This tragic incident underscores the critical importance of farm safety, particularly the responsible handling and storage of firearms on agricultural properties.

Farms are meant to be safe workplaces that contribute to food security, rural development, and livelihoods. This preventable incident highlights a shocking lapse in basic safety protocols and obliviousness that must never be seen again.

MEC Kekana calls on the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) to ensure that the father, who has been arrested for negligent handling of a firearm, is held fully accountable under the law. Adults entrusted with firearms on farms carry an unambiguous duty to protect the lives of workers, family members, and the broader community- and not to have them killed in a hobby exercise.

The MEC urges all farm owners and managers to review and strengthen their safety practices, particularly around firearms and access by minors. Farms must remain secure, productive spaces where risks are managed, and tragedies like this are avoided. Responsible oversight is not optional; it is essential to protect life and safeguard the agricultural sector.

Our deepest condolences go to the family of the deceased farm worker. MEC Kekana will visit the family of the deceased this week.

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