



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO ALL MEDIA

11 NOVEMBER 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RADZILANI DISTRESSED OVER TWO INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES
INVOLVING MINORS AS VICTIMS AND SUSPECTS**

The MEC responsible for Social Development in Limpopo, Ms Florence Radzilani has expressed profound distress and heartbreak following two separate incidents of sexual assault of two young girls allegedly by their peers.

In the first incident the police report that a six-year-old victim disclosed to her mother that her 13-year older brother called her into a room at their home, where the alleged assault took place. The young girl was promptly taken to the hospital, where medical examinations confirmed that she had been sexually assaulted.

This tragic incident has been formally referred to the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit in Makhado for further investigation. The suspect remains in the care of his parents while awaiting assessment by a probation officer, in accordance with the provisions of the Child Justice Act.

In another incident a six-year-old girl was sexually assaulted allegedly by a 14-year-old boy in Makumeke village, outside Malamulele. According to preliminary reports, the young girl returned home carrying sweets and snacks. When she was asked who bought her the treats, she named the suspect. Following this, the child's mother took her to a local hospital after she complained of pain in her private parts, where medical examinations confirmed that she had been raped.

A case of sexual assault has been officially opened and the matter has been referred to the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit in Giyani for further investigation. The police quickly traced the suspect, who was subsequently released into the care of his parents pending assessment by a probation officer, in accordance with the Child Justice Act.

Reacting to the two incidents MEC Radzilani expressed that it was particularly troubling that the alleged perpetrators are minors themselves.

“These incidents portray the disturbing reality that some children are being exposed to harmful influences and situations that lead them to commit such heinous acts,” said Radzilani. She added that: “We must reflect on the environment in which our children are growing up and the guidance they are receiving. Children are vulnerable and require adult supervision, especially during the period where children will be on school recess because of festive school holidays when they are more likely to be left unsupervised.”

Radzilani called on parents, guardians and communities to work together to protect children from exposure to harmful content, behaviors, and environments that can lead to such tragedies. .

For More enquiries contact

Joshua Kwapa

Director: Communications Services

066 497 6282

Vongani Chauke

Media Liaison Officer

083 636 6229