



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA ADVISORY

TO ALL MEDIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEC RADZILANI OUTRAGED OVER THE RAPE OF MINORS

The Limpopo MEC responsible for Social Development, Ms Florence Radzilani is deeply outraged and profoundly disturbed by the horrific incidents of sexual assault committed against two innocent minors over the weekend. These heinous acts, perpetrated by men old enough to be their fathers, are a stark violation of human dignity and a tragic reflection of the ongoing crisis of gender-based violence in our society.

In the first incident, a 55-year-old man was arrested following the rape of a 15-year-old girl in Phomolong, Modimolle. According to police reports, the victim was asleep alone when the suspect entered her room and sexually assaulted her. The attack was interrupted when a tenant nearby heard the commotion and intervened, leading to the suspect's immediate arrest. The suspect is expected to appear before Naboomspruit Magistrate's Court today.

In the second incident, a 37-year-old man was arrested following the alleged rape of a 10-year-old girl in the Ritavi policing area. The police report indicates that the suspect was sleeping in the same room as the victim and her mother when, around midnight, he allegedly raped the young girl while they were asleep.

The incident came to light the following morning when the victim disclosed the assault. She was taken for medical examination and the rape was confirmed. The suspect is set to face charges of rape in NkowaNkowa Magistrate's Court.

These despicable acts are a heartbreaking reminder of the urgent need to protect our children from predators who abuse their trust and innocence. "It is utterly unacceptable that men, who should be providing love, protection and support, instead choose to commit such unspeakable crimes. No child deserves to experience the trauma of sexual violence," said Radzilani

She called on the justice system to impose the harshest possible penalties permissible by law on these individuals, sending a clear message that such conduct will not be tolerated in society. "We also urge community leaders, law enforcement agencies and all stakeholders to intensify efforts to prevent child abuse, raise awareness and provide support to survivors," added Radzilani.

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**Issued by
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