



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO ALL MEDIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEC RADZILANI EXPRESSES PROFOUND SADNESS AND RELIEF FOLLOWING THE ARREST OF ALLEGED RAPIST BROTHER

The MEC responsible for Social Development in Limpopo, Ms Florence Radzilani has expressed profound sadness, outrage and relief following the recent arrest related to a heartbreaking case of a sexual assault of a disabled boy in Tafelkop, Ga-Kopa village recently.

The MEC's reaction follows the rape of a 10-year-old boy allegedly by his 18-year-old biological brother. According to Police reports, this vile act occurred on the 26 February while the child's mother was attending a funeral. The matter came to light when the mother noticed that her son was in pain when bathing and upon further questioning, the child apparently disclosed that he had been raped by his brother.

The matter was swiftly reported to Motetema Police Station and the suspect was subsequently arrested by the Groblersdal Family Violence, Child Protection, and Sexual Offences Unit yesterday.

The MEC said: “While I am relieved that justice appears to be on its way with the arrest, I am also filled with sadness, hurt and rage. It is a tragic betrayal of the sacred duty of a brother to protect and care for his vulnerable sibling, especially one living with disabilities. It is deeply unsettling that someone who should have been a protector has become the perpetrator of such a despicable act.”

This incident underscores the urgent need for the community and by extension the department to prioritize the protection of the most vulnerable members living with disabilities. “Every person, regardless of their condition, deserves to live free from violence, abuse and neglect,” said Radzilani

The department will dispatch social workers to the affected family to provide psychosocial support to the victim and his family during this difficult time.

“We are committed to ensuring that the child receives all necessary care, protection and support to heal from this trauma. We call for the harshest punishment permissible by law should the suspect be convicted. Justice must be served to send a clear message that such heinous acts will not be tolerated in our society,” said Radzilani

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