



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 CONDEMNS HEINOUS SEXUAL ASSAULTS OF MINORS

The MEC responsible for Social Development, Ms. Florence Radzilani, is deeply angered and profoundly hurt by the disturbing incidents of sexual assault involving minors that occurred over the weekend. These heinous acts are a betrayal of the children's innocence and a blatant violation of their fundamental rights to safety, love and protection.

The first incident involved a 16-year-old suspect who was arrested on Saturday for allegedly raping his two siblings, a girl aged 12 and a boy aged eight. The incident was brought to light when one of the victims confided in her mother. Upon confrontation, the suspect reacted violently and assaulted his mother. The mother immediately reported the matter to the police and the suspect was swiftly arrested. The two victims were taken to a local hospital for medical examinations. The suspect is expected to appear before Namakgale Magistrate's Court today.

In a separate and equally distressing case, a 42-year-old man was arrested following allegations of raping a six-year-old child. According to police reports, the suspect, who is known to the victim, lured her to his residence during a family event under the pretense of collecting a jacket. When the other child accompanying her returned alone, family members searched for her and found her partially undressed at the suspect's home. The victim disclosed the abuse, and the matter was promptly reported to the police.

The victim was taken for medical examination and the suspect is scheduled to appear before Ritavi Magistrate's Court tomorrow.

"We condemn these acts in the strongest possible terms and reaffirm our unwavering commitment to safeguarding every child in our communities. These incidents are intolerable and demand decisive action," said Radzilani. The Department of Social Development will send dedicated social workers to the affected families to provide psychosocial support, counseling and assistance to the victims and their families. "We are committed to ensuring that those responsible are held accountable and that our children receive the care and protection they deserve," Radzilani added.

She called on communities to remain vigilant and report any suspicions of abuse immediately. "Our children are our future and their safety is non-negotiable. We will continue to work tirelessly to create a protective environment where every child can flourish free from harm," expressed Radzilani.

For further enquires contact

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