



LIMPOPO
LEGISLATURE

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

LIMPOPO PROVINCE

**VERBATIM REPORT
[HANSARD]**

OF THE

DELIBERATIONS AND DEBATES

OF THE

SECOND SESSION

OF THE

SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE

THURSDAY, 05 NOVEMBER 2020

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PARTIES REPRESENTED IN THE HOUSE:

African National Congress (ANC)
 Democratic Alliance (DA)
 Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF)
 Vryheidsfront Plus (FF+)

1. Aphiri, Mokgadi Johanna	ANC
2. Boshielo, Shela Polly	ANC
3. Buthane, Modikane Joseph	EFF
4. Kekana, Nakedi Grace	ANC
5. Lebea-Olaiya, Kedibone Margaret	ANC
6. Lekganyane, Nakedi Maria	ANC
7. Lerule-Ramakhanya, Mavhungu Maureen	ANC
8. Maharaj, Risham	DA
9. Mahasela, Mahlodi Caroline	ANC
10. Makamu, Basikopo Rodgers	ANC
11. Makhurupetje, Makoma Grace	ANC
12. Managa, Lilian	EFF
13. Manganye, Tinyiko Florence	EFF
14. Maritz, Marcelle Frieda	FF+
15. Marule, Jacob Boy Otto	ANC
16. Maseko, Funani Jerry	ANC
17. Masekoameng, Mmabogahla Isaiah	ANC
18. Masemola, Namane Dickson	ANC
19. Mashamaite, Nkhohlo Victor	ANC
20. Mathabatha, Chupu Stanley	ANC
21. Mathe, Simon Matsobane	ANC
22. Mathye, Susani Violet	ANC
23. Matlou, Leswafo Joshua	ANC
24. Mdaka, Falaza Philemon	ANC
25. Mitleni, Wisani Goodman	ANC
26. Mochadi, Sekutu Monicca	ANC
27. Mohlala, Manamane Charles	EFF
28. Mokaba-Phukwana, Mapula Annah	ANC
29. Mokgonyana, Essob Mmanoko	ANC
30. Mokone, Thabo Andrew	ANC
31. Molapo, Reneiloe Rosemarry	ANC
32. Monama, Gannye Rodgers	ANC
33. Monyamane, Nkome Sarah	ANC
34. Moraka, Anna Tandi	ANC
35. Mphahlele Selaelo Regina	EFF
36. Ndalane, Nandi Annah	ANC
37. Ndou, Azwindini Jeremiah Dingaan	ANC
38. Phala, Katlego Suzan	DA
39. Phala, Kgolane Alfred	ANC
40. Radzilani, Fulufhelo Florence	ANC
41. Rakgoale, Chritian Nkakareng	ANC

42. Ramathuba, Phophi Constance	ANC
43. Raphela, George	EFF
44. Sekoati, Seaparo Charles	ANC
45. Selamolela Selelo Donald	ANC
46. Selane, Che Bonnie David	ANC
47. Seono, Mmaishibe Rebecca	ANC
48. Seshoka, Jetrick	EFF
49. Smalle, Jacobus Frederik	DA

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3. Matibe, Tshitereke Baldwin	ANC
4. Nchabeleng, Mamagase Aleck	ANC
5. Shaikh, Shahidabibi	ANC
6. Smit, Christiaan Frederik Beyers	DA

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- b) Internal Arrangements Committee
- c) Programming Committee
- d) Whippery
- e) Disciplinary Committee
- f) Committee on Ethics and Members' Interests
- g) Committee of Presiding Officers
- h) Public Accounts Committee
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- f) Transport and Community Safety
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Netshamulivho, A J (Mr)

**VERBATIM SPEECHES OF THE
LEBOWAKGOMO LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER
VIRTUAL SITTING
THURSDAY, 05 NOVEMBER 2020
MEETING OF THE HOUSE: 10:00**

1. PRAYERS/MEDITATIONS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

We shall now have the opportunity for a moment of silence for prayers and meditations.

[SILENCE]

Thank you.

2. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Are there any motions without notice in terms of House Rule 145? I recognise, Hon Matlou.

MR MATLOU

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. The Deputy Speaker, Hon Premier, Members of the Executive Council, Hon Chief Whip, Hon Leader of the Opposition present here, honourable Members, good morning.

SENTENCING OF DR DUMISANI CHAUKE
(Motion without Notice)

Hon Speaker, we welcome the sentence of the 55-year-old Dr Dumisani Chauke to an effective 8 years for raping an 18-year-old girl who was consulting in his private practice.

The conviction is a clear indication that no one is above the law and must be used to send a strong message to the potential perpetrators that no one is above the law.

By raping the poor girl, the doctor did not only break his oath of office but has insulted the trust that the society generally has with medical practitioners operating in their own practice.

On behalf of the ANC, we welcome the sanction that must be used as a good case study amongst men and society at large that rape has no place in our society.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I recognise, Hon Buthane.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

I second, Hon Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Are there any further motions without notice in terms of House Rule 145? I recognise, Hon Manganye.

MS MANGANYE

Thank you, Hon Speaker. Our party leader, Hon Jossey Buthane, the MECs, the Premier and fellow honourable Members, I salute you.

CONCERN OVER THE RISING INCIDENTS OF MOB JUSTICE IN LIMPOPO
(Motion without Notice)

Hon Speaker, allow me to rise on behalf of the EFF to move a motion without notice that the House notes the rising incidents of mob justice in Limpopo, which puts the province in a bad limelight. Although we strongly condemn incidents of mob justice, the people take the law into their own hands because of loss of trust in the police and the justice system. Many incidents of mob justice in the province were recently reported raising more questions than answers.

Recently, the Limpopo police have arrested four suspects after the brutal attack on a 64-year-old man who was set alight, and his house torched during a mob justice incident at Ngove village in Giyani. [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Hon Manganye, can you hold on please? Can we request Members to mute their microphones, because they are interrupting the speaker as she continues, please? You can continue, honourable Member.

MS MANGANYE

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. Recently, the Limpopo police have arrested four suspects after the brutal attack on a 64-year-old man who was set alight, and his house torched during a mob justice incident at Ngove village in Giyani. This man was suspected of killing his own wife in what appeared to be a gender-based violence.

People take the law into their own hands because of frustrations and incompetence by the police, who continue to fail in investigating cases and making arrests. Cases are being reported on daily basis, but no arrests are made resulting in the complete state of lawlessness.

We call upon communities to report cases to the police and not take the law into their own hands. We further call upon the police and the justice system to wake up from the slumberland and start serving communities as expected to avoid lawlessness.

I so move. Inkomu!

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much, Hon Manganye. Is there any seconder. I notice, Hon Seshoka.

MR SESHOKA

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I second the motion as presented by Hon Manganye.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Are there any further motions without notice in terms of House Rule 145? I recognise, Hon Mathye.

MS MATHYE

Thanks, Hon Speaker. Good morning to your good self and to the House at large.

WISHING THE MATRIC CLASS OF 2020 THE BEST OF LUCK IN THEIR FINAL EXAMINATIONS

(Motion without Notice)

I, Mathye Susani Violet, rise on behalf of the ANC in this virtual Sitting to wish the Matric 2020 well as they have just started with their final examinations early this morning. Despite this being a generally challenging year with formidable odds and obstacles occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, we remain confident that the class of 2020 will make us proud. This year's results must send a loud and clear message to the nation and the world that our children refuse to be made permanent drawers of water and hewers of wood as the architects of apartheid education has designed.

Despite the difficult and desperate conditions under which many of our schools operate, it is heartening to note the steady progress we are making within the education system. These gains that we made with the sector are irreversible and we have certainly turned the tide.

We call on everyone who considered themselves patriotic South African to join government in a partnership to make our schools work, and to help keep the doors of learning and culture wide open for all South Africans.

We urge all stakeholders, especially parents, to take a keen interest in the education of their children. We are confident that many of our learners would defy the odds and emerge as the pride of our nation.

We wish the class of 2020 the best of luck.

I so move, Hon Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I call upon, Hon Seono.

MS SEONO

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. I raise my hand to second the motion as tabled by Hon Mathye Susani. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Do we have any further motions without notice? I notice Hon Lebea.

MS LEBEA

Thanks, Hon Deputy Speaker, and blessed morning to distinguished guests of the House.

**CONGRATULATORY REMARKS TO THE LIMPOPO SAPS ON THE ARREST OF
PERPETRATORS INVOLVED IN GRUESOME MURDERS**
(Motion without Notice)

Hon Speaker, I rise to move a without notice on behalf of the ANC and the people of Limpopo to commend the men and women in blue of the South African Police Service in the province. In the past few months, we have seen the police making instant breakthroughs in dealing with cases affecting the nation, ranging from the gruesome murders of the owners of Ocean Basket to the ambush of the two Gauteng women who were doing business in the city of Polokwane.

I want to send words of gratifications that these arrests are restoring faith in the country's security. It is also impressing to note that perpetrators of these atrocities have been apprehended in a short period of time.

In the case of Hettie Deacon and her daughter Lizette, the owners of Ocean Basket restaurant in the city, the police demonstrated their impeccable skills in pursuing the perpetrators.

It also gives us great pleasure to note that the police have made arrests in the murder case of Makoena Mabusela-Leshabane and Tebogo Mphuti who were shot in broad daylight while viewing business space in Polokwane. We have also noted that one of the suspects in the case is the husband of the late Makoena Mabusela, making the other woman fall victim in the process.

With such demonstration of zeal and capabilities, it then becomes incumbent upon us as members of civil society to show maximum cooperation with the police and assist them in their investigations. These are not the only cases where the police have made breakthroughs, the list is endless and includes cases of heist and robberies that the police have been able to intercept through their highly advanced endeavours.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I recognise, Hon Makhurupetje.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Thanks very much, Hon Speaker. I, Makoma Makhurupetje, stand here to support the motion as presented by Hon Lebea. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Do we have any further motions without notice? Hon Makhurupetje, your hand is up.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

No, I am sorry Chair.

3. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

We shall then move to notices of motions in terms of House Rule 146. There is none.

4. MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Do we have any statements by Members? I recognise, Hon Seshoka.

MR SESHOKA

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. The Leader of the Opposition, Hon Joseph Buthane; all Members of the Executive Council present; and Members of the august House, greetings to you and good morning.

**CONCERN OVER THE NON-COMPLETION OF MOSHATE STADIUM BY
MOGALAKWENA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
(Members' Statement)**

Hon Speaker, the EFF is concerned about the incomplete Moshate Stadium in Mogalakwena, which was budgeted to be completed within the 2016/17 financial year but, to date, it is still incomplete. Typical of the ANC government, the contractor was paid 90% of the work, while the work of constructing the stadium is still at 40%. It is clear that the thieves were impatient to steal the taxpayers' money as they could not even wait until the completion of the stadium. This is Mogalakwena Municipality project where shameful acts like corruption are the orders of the day. If you want to see hardened criminals, go to Mogalakwena Municipality, you will find them there in air-conditioned offices. But we must say that there are good officials dedicated to do their work and we must applaud them.

Corruption in that municipality has reached a cancerous proportion and hinders on service delivery and development. Poverty and unemployment will forever be a permanent feature in this area as corruption has taken its toll while government is doing nothing to stop it. Looters use government projects as a milk cow where they are prepared to milk it until blood comes out.

We call upon the MEC for CoGHSTA to investigate this matter and make sure that those who stole taxpayers' money are arrested with immediate effect.

I thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you. Are there any further statements by Members? I notice, Hon Smalle.

MR SMALLE

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

**SUBSTANDARD QUALITY OF CARE FOR WOMEN DURING PREGNANCY AND
CHILDBIRTH AT SESHEGO HOSPITAL**
(Members' Statement)

Mrs Hlomatstone was booked in at the Seshego Hospital from 22 to 29 October 2020. Her experience was that she wishes to forget finding dirty bathroom with no toilet paper. Patients were using newspapers as if their dignity was not tarnished enough, patients were sleeping on mattresses on the floor due to insufficient beds.

Mrs Harmse was transferred from Polokwane Hospital to Seshego Hospital on 10 September 2020 to give birth. Her experience was like that of Mrs Hlomatstone. What is worse is that the professional staff could not assist her in giving birth as she was transferred back to the Polokwane Hospital where she delivered her baby – the same hospital which did not assist her in the first place.

Substandard quality of care during pregnancy and childbirth is increasingly acknowledged to negatively influence subsequent care, seeking an important underlying cause for maternal morbidity and mortality. Quality of care provided and the interpersonal component of quality of care during pregnancy and childbirth should ensure that women are treated with respect for their dignity.

Honourable MEC, why should the department and yourself not to be charged for your role and the department's role in the dehumanising conditions of our mothers when they give birth, both at the Human Rights Commission as well as the Gender Commission on gender-based violence when one evaluates what is taking place at Seshego Hospital. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you. Are there any further statements by Members?

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Yes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Don't say yes. Raise your hand, Hon Buthane.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

But my hand has been up. Thank you very much. Greetings to you Deputy Speaker, Members of the Executive Council, the leadership on the opposition benches and Members of the House at large.

THE ADOPTION OF MOHLAKANENG HIGH SCHOOL IN SESHEGO BY CIC JULIUS MALEMA (Members' Statement)

We are elated to inform the people of Limpopo that the Commander-in-Chief, President Julius Malema, has adopted Mohlakaneng High School which is based in Seshego. This noble move confirms that indeed the CIC cares about the education and development of an African child. Already the school is enjoying the benefits of these revolutionary interventions through improvements and alterations which are currently underway. During this past weekend, the Commander-in-Chief took all Grade 12 learners of Mohlakaneng High School to Zebula Golf Estate and Spa for motivation and team building towards final examinations.

We would like to convey our sincere gratitude to the MEC for Education in Limpopo, Hon Polly Boshielo, who despite attacks from unreasonable ANC factions, continued to be supportive to the efforts of developing our schools. The EFF is encouraged by the support the MEC has shown and call upon the MEC to support developmental activities regardless of political affiliation.

Former President Nelson Mandela once said: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." This august occasion was also attended by young environmental scientists and pilots whose education has been funded by the EFF. We salute the CIC for these efforts and call upon other Members of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures to adopt schools, clinics and other public institutions which are beneficial to the public.

The EFF in Limpopo also wishes all Grade 12 matriculants all the best and success in their final year examinations for 2020. It has been a difficult year, disrupted by COVID-19 pandemic, which badly affected education and all sectors of our society. Courage, dedication and discipline must be the important pillars during this important period as the world is awaiting to celebrate with them. We call upon matriculants to refrain from any elements which have a potential of disrupting them from focussing on their academic work.

The EFF equally thank teachers for their commitments for going an extra mile in trying to redeem the lost time on curriculum coverage. The role of parents in supporting their children throughout the difficult year cannot be underestimated. The class of 2020 is urged to keep calm and focus, seek help where necessary.

In conclusion, we call upon the MEC to support future projects and initiatives aimed at shaping the minds of our children.

I thank you, the MEC for Education, and thank you Members who support all the initiatives.

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

Why le sa phaphathe matsogo?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you. Is the MEC for CoGHSTA here? We shall now call upon MEC for Health, Dr Ramathuba, to start.

THE MEC FOR HEALTH

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. We are noting the Members' Statement from the DA. Regarding specific aspects in terms of the patients, we would appreciate if they can forward to us so that we can investigate the case and be able to respond to them. We should also appreciate the fact that due to the regress in terms of the clinics that are rendering 24-hour service, patients are no longer going to the clinics, and they flood our hospitals. That is why you find that some hospitals are overcrowded recently because patients are bypassing clinics for delivery.

Regarding the specific cases of Mrs Harmse and Mrs Hlomatstone, we will investigate and give the House the response as to what had happened. It is common that Mrs Harmse could have gone straight to Pietersburg Hospital for delivery and the challenge being, if you look at the infrastructure maternity wards for Pietersburg Hospital, they have got few beds which are used mainly for complicated cases like those that require obstetrician. They would, when the beds are full, refer you back to Seshego.

Now there is a possibility that when she was at Seshego, she experienced complications because labour pains change when you are at the process, during that process of labour she might have been complicated and therefore, they would have to send her back to Pietersburg Hospital. That is why we always encourage that all pregnant women must start at the clinic. Let it be the clinic that refers you to a level one hospital that will therefore refer you to a level two which is a regional hospital which is Pietersburg or Mankweng which are our tertiary hospitals. We are trying to strengthen that referral system as part of our campaign in terms of reducing the maternal and child mortality. If honourable Members can look at the statistic results, they will see that it is working, because indeed maternal mortality in this province is avoidable on daily basis and is reducing every year. In a year we record the reduction.

The second issue which has been raised regarding the stadium in Mogalakwena Municipality, let me also indicate because the MEC for CoGHSTA is busy with the exams, let us indicate that yes, indeed the stadium there has been wrongdoing in that municipality on that project, but we can reassure you that officials who have been involved with that building of the stadium have since been suspended. They are going through the disciplinary process. The municipality has already started with the process of trying to reclaim the money from the service providers. Equally the MEC for CoGHSTA will provide details because the case will be followed up.

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We could then move to Executive Statements.

5. EXECUTIVE STATEMENTS

Do we have any Executives' Statements? I call upon, Hon Boshielo.

THE MEC FOR EDUCATION

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker, my colleagues in the Executive Council and all honourable Members.

THE READINESS OF THE LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WITH THE 2020 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS (Executive Statement)

Today the Limpopo Department of Education, like all other provincial departments in the country have started with the administration of the 2020 National Senior Certificates examinations. We are delighted as a province that we have managed to come this far, following the COVID-19 pandemic which disrupted our academic operations and affected the system of education in ways that no one ever imagined. The system suffered drastic and massive reduction of teaching and learning time which necessitated the collapse of the May/June 2020 and October/November external examinations for Grade 12 learners.

We have successfully administered the Trial Examinations under the COVID-19 conditions and have drawn serious lessons that have enabled us to be starting today with our final NSC examinations. Preparatory examinations have been accordingly analysed, and this year we were able to use the results to provide differentiated intervention strategies in preparation for the examination underway today. On 23 October, the department held the pledge signing ceremony for all the candidates, committing them to uphold the rules and conditions of regulations as well as to uphold the principles of honesty and integrity that apply in the examinations. The pledge signing accordingly ushered the commencement of the Grade 12 examinations. As part of the last push, we maximise on Spring classes, as well as Saturday classes to prepare our candidates. Indeed the 2020 NSC examinations are underway, and this morning we were at Makgoka Secondary School in Mankweng Circuit, Capricorn South District to monitor the first day of the examinations, where in English FAL was scheduled to be written.

We have been working around the clock under the COVID-19 circumstances to put in place impeccable systems to ensure that we run an incident-free examination given the size of the 2020 examinations. This year's examination is the largest ever examination to be administered in the province and caters for a total number of 148 630 candidates. This number which has literally doubled, is combined of learners who would have written the May/June examination with those who would have written the October/November 2020 examination. There is pressure on the system to use all its resources to ensure a credible and successful administration of the final examinations. This year, the education district with the highest number of full-time candidates is Vhembe East with 11 995 candidates. Waterberg is the education district with the lowest number of candidates totalling 2 672.

We call upon everyone to ensure that all our examination centres across the province adhere to the sector standard operating procedures in terms of the prevention and management of the COVID-19. We have supplied all our centres with sanitizers, candidates with cloth masks and all examination rooms for them to adhere to the stipulated social distancing regulations. All our districts have enough classes to accommodate the Grade 12 candidates, 56 storage points were used for the safekeeping of question papers and all these points have been audited accordingly in terms of the set requirements by Umalusi.

On conclusion of the writing of the 2020 exams, 25 marking centres will be utilised for the marking of scripts which is scheduled to commence on 06 January 2021 for a period of 14 days. Selection of markers have been concluded and 5 695 markers have been appointed, 1 110 senior markers and 220 Deputy Chief Markers would be responsible for the marking of the 2020 NSC scripts. It is all system go for the 2020 examinations and these are critical times for our learners. We are calling along cooperation from all sectors of our communities to ensure that the candidates are given the necessary support. The department cannot pull it off alone and we need every stakeholder on-board to deliver a credible examination in the interests of all our candidates. We call upon our candidates to remain focused and not be distracted. We still have a long way, and we urge parents to support their children during the entire period of their examinations. Education remains a societal matter.

Good luck to our candidates and we wish them well and success in their examinations.

I thank you, Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We shall now have political parties commenting on the Executive Statements. I shall now call upon the DA.

MR SMALLE

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. It is clear that the Department of Education is operating under circumstances not known to them, but if you take a full-time Grade 12 learners with the learners that should have written in June with the part-time students, we are talking close to 120 000 Grade 12 learners that are going to write their exams during the next three weeks and our best wishes goes to each and every individual of those learners and of the support of their parents who are looking after those children.

My thanks must also go to the professional support of the Department of Education team under their HOD. We had a presentation this week and I must say to this august House for the very first time we are getting real information at real time and extremely professional work being done by that department. I understand their challenges and we will talk about those challenges at another day. Thank you very much, MEC and your HOD.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. I shall now call upon, the EFF.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. It can never happen that the DA speaks before us on this kind of matters. In terms of seniority, we must talk first and then they come after. The mistake should not repeat itself. Thank you very much ... [INTERVENTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Hon Buthane, which mistake?

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Yes, they can't speak before us.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

We have the presiding officer who has called political parties to respond, and we are started with the lowest one, coming to the next one, and then we will end up with the highest represented party.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

There is no problem. Hon Deputy Speaker, we want to thank the leadership of Hon Polly Boshielo. I think for some time the Department of Education is trying to get things on track and is getting its act together. We appreciate the energy of the leadership of that department together with its staff. We want to assure them that they have our support for as long as they do the right things. By the way, our support means translate the support and performance of those in Grade 12 up to Grade R, which means that working together we can take this province forward. There is nothing special about Gauteng and other provinces that continue to lead when it comes to the matric results. It is only the determination, the dedication and commitment of the leadership that is also beyond that is honestly in responding to questions when asked. If it is impossible, if you fail you said it was impossible, if you failed you said yes here I failed irrespective of who asked the question. If you carry on with that spirit, I see this department going places like other departments that continue to shine in other areas of the country.

You are operating under a very difficult conditions of COVID-19 which was not known by all of us. No one here can stand up and claim that he or she has ever operated under these COVID-19 conditions before, so we learn as we go and we are proud and happy that all involved under the education sector, who are the principals, and the teachers did not lower the guards. They instead doubled the efforts in pursuit for a bright future for a black child. We want to send all the best wishes to the Grade 12 class of 2020. Let's continue to soldier on, we have already given a Members' Statement as the EFF, congratulating them and thanking the MEC for the support.

We need to understand that issues of education cannot be black, green, gold, red, blue, or orange, that one of the FF+ if they are still existing in this house, it can never be along those lines, it must be about a better future, it must be a brighter future. If a black child passes, no organisation has passed. The society has benefited from such a child and dispelling the myth that a black child can never do it. We also wish and

hope other organisations can come to party irrespective of colour, we wish to see the DA adopting a school in Seshego or Blood River, we wish to see the FF+ adopting a school in the deepest rural area without even enslaving them to vote for them. Just adopting and encouraging them to perform better and contributing with whatever resources they can contribute for the betterment of our society in general. Thanks very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. All the best to our children.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We shall now call upon the ANC.

MR MASEKO

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker, Members of the Executive Council, and the entire Members of the Provincial Legislature, on behalf of the ANC, I rise to thank the Department of Education under the leadership of the MEC Boshielo and the HOD for having provided leadership regarding the preparation for the examinations under this difficult condition. As Limpopo we are ready with regard to ensuring that the qualitative outcomes of this process will be realised once the process has been concluded. The type of information that we receive from the department is very qualitative and it is very clear that the leadership of the department has got all the facts at its disposal about what is happening in the broader corners of the province.

We would like to call upon all stakeholders to take this opportunity and support the learners, motivate them from their household, and give them hope that even under this difficult condition of COVID-19, they can still make it so that the black child can be able contribute to the development of our country.

We also want to call upon Members of the Provincial Legislature to visit schools just to monitor the process and make sure that compliance and incident-free examinations are taking place so that finally as a province we prioritise education and make sure that the objectives of education are realised. Thank you, Chairperson.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much, honourable Members for those encouraging and best wishes to our learners, the class of 2020. We wish them all the best and hope that they will make us proud at the end of their examinations.

6. TABLING OF COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER REPORTS AND PAPERS

We shall proceed to the tabling of committee reports, other reports and papers and call upon the Leader of Government Business.

THE LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Thank you, Hon Speaker, Hon Premier, Members of the august House, my colleagues in the Executive Council. In compliance with the details of section 65 of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act 1 of 1999) as amended, I, Seaparo Charles Sekoati, as the Executive Authority responsible for the Department of Provincial Treasury, table before this Legislature the 2019/20 Annual Report and the Financial

Statements of my department together with the Auditor-General's Report on those statements within one month which the accounting officer of the department shall have received the audited report.

I now table the report for consideration by the relevant committee of this august House. I thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. The reports will be referred to the Portfolio Committee on Provincial Treasury and Scopa for consideration and to report back to the House.

7. ORDERS OF THE DAY

7.1. Consideration and adoption of the 2018/19 Reports of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure

We shall now call upon the committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the report of 2018/19 Report of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for consideration and adoption by this august House. I so move, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I notice, Hon Phala. I have seen your hand up.

ADV PHALA

Thanks very much, Hon Speaker. I hereby rise to second the motion as tabled by the committee chairperson, Hon Makoma Grace Makhurupetje.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Over to you, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, I stand here on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure to present the 2018/19 second quarter report of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for consideration and adoption by this august House. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I recognise, Hon Aphiri.

MS APHIRI

Hon Speaker, I raise my hand to second the motion as presented by Hon Makhurupetje. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. I shall now call upon the committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Thanks very much, Deputy Speaker. I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure to present the 2018/19 third quarter report to this august House for consideration and adoption by the House. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I call upon, Hon Selamolela.

MR SELAMOLELA

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I stand to second the motion presented by the chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Hon Grace Makhurupetje. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Continue, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure to present the Report of 2018/19 fourth quarter report to this august House for consideration and adoption by the House. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I recognise, Hon Radzilani.

MS RADZILANI

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I raise my hand to second the motion as presented to this august House by the chairperson, Hon Makhurupetje. Thanks, Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Over to you, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure to present the Annual Report for 2018/19 financial year, and for this august House for consideration and adoption. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I recognise Hon Mathe.

MR MATHE

Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. I, Hon Simon Mathe, second the motion as presented by the committee chairperson.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We shall now refer to the Speakers' List and call upon Hon Donald Selamolela.

MR SELAMOLELA

Thank you, Hon Premier in absentia, Hon Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Members of the Executive Council present today and fellow Members of the Legislature. I want to salute you this morning in the name of our people, particularly the toiling masses of our people in this month to gather here today on this virtual Sitting. Equally, I want to salute you fellow men and women in the name of democracy loving people in our world.

The crucial role of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure as a catalyst for development in general and economic development in the main cannot be overemphasised. We, as the portfolio committee, discharged our duty in providing oversight for this portfolio of public infrastructure with the very understanding that the success of this department is infrastructure delivery and must translate economic emancipation for our people, an overarching achievement we are all yearning.

In the year under review as the portfolio, we have noted amongst others the following with concern, as far as this portfolio is concerned. That there is lack of improvement in audit opinion over the proceeding financial years. We have also been concerned about the lack of clear consequent management process in the department, resulting in a set of impunity amongst and by the transgressors. We have also noted the privatisation of roads infrastructure maintenance leading to rapid road infrastructure degenerations. We have noted non-payment of municipal accounts by the department, which is a matter of great concern to us as the portfolio committee. It is our strong view that if we as government are to implement the user-pay principle to our people, we must be the first to lead and should walk the talk in that regard. It cannot be that the provincial government continues to owe municipalities in the manner that collapse the financial capacity of the very municipalities.

We have in this regard as a portfolio committee call upon the MEC and the department to ensure clearing of all outstanding debts with our local municipalities.

We also make a call on the department to improve on the audit outcomes. We have called the department to equally improve on the road maintenance. It is perhaps important to over emphasise that if we are to deliver on the contract we have entered with our people through our predecessors since that faithful and lovely day of 08 January 1912, we must deliver infrastructure to our people. In doing so, we will light a strong burning flame of economic development, thus liberating our people from the scourge of poverty, inequality and under development. I want to thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thanks, Hon Selamolela. We shall now call upon Hon Managa. Can I request Members to lower their hands? Hon Mdaka, please, can you lower your hand. Over to you, Hon Managa.

MS MANAGA

Ndo livhuwa Mulangabuthano wa duvha, Mutatisei Vho Azwindini Jeremiah Ndou. Ndi, Managa Lilian, u bva kha lihora lihanedzi la EFF. Kha vha ntendele Mulangabuthano ndi lumelise Muthomphei Vho Joseph Modikane Buthane, Vhathomphei vhothe vha re fhanu u ya nga maimo avho nga u fhambana fhambana, khathihi na vhaimelili vhothe vha mihasho ya muvhuso vha re hone fhanu.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the implementation of the new logistic system in this department delays the payment of invoices for service providers within 30 days and as per policy directives. This means that black businesses in the main will continue to suffer with the operational costs and fail to pay their workers as expected, because there will be no money to pay them. Instead of supporting black emerging businesses, government sabotages them by not paying them within the prescribed time. The number of employees who dropped out or fail the project-based learning initiatives means that they do not get adequate support from the department for them to cope with the demands of the costs to complete the projects. This is a complete waste of taxpayers' money, and it is not value for money because it is like flushing the money down the drain. Despite the introduction of Operation Hakela, the debt in the department continues to grow, meaning that tenants do not pay as expected. The revenue collection in this regard is affected because there are no contingent interventions to deal with tenants who do not comply with their obligation to pay.

The implementation of debt recovery plan is not yielding the expected results, and nothing is being done by this lazy department to review it. This is a standing challenge that we have always raised even in the previous term, and it looks like government has no idea on how to resolve this matter. We are disappointed that the department does not have the strategy to retain workers with rare skills as they continue to resign in large numbers, causing the instability within the department. The vacancies like that of Chief Director: Planning and Design and Chief Director: Constructions remain vacant for more than four years now. Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, has the highest staff compliments of rare and specialised skills employees, and that includes engineers, land surveyors and many more. It is important to develop retention strategy to keep those workers, and part of the strategy is to pay them well with good benefits.

The EFF is concerned that the Manenu Traffic Training College for traffic officers is not well maintained and it continued to be in a dilapidated state. Trainees are subjected or even treated under inhuman conditions. They have to suffer humiliation for the duration of their training. This is completely unacceptable and must come to an end. Government has procrastinated on this matter far too long to an extent that our people have lost their hope that this will ever happen.

In conclusion, we have the question as to how this is allowed to happen, remain the mystery but something drastic must be done to deal with this. The same question will apply to why client departments do not submit their infrastructure programme implementation plans and why it is allowed to happen, what kind of madness is this. This is how government is supposed to run. Le a palelwa. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We shall now call upon, Hon Maharaj.

MR MAHARAJ

Thank you, Hon Speaker. It will appear as if this debate speech is like disavow, simply because nothing positive in this report seems to be forthcoming. Despite the continuous addressing of issues in concerned there is clearly no political, no management is doing the job well to improve this department. This is further indicated in the Auditor-General's report where urgent intervention was needed in the submission of quality financial statements. There were far too many material misstatements in addition to prior queried findings which are not being addressed. The quality of this submitted annual reports is concerning, as many of this reports and document and the annual reports submitted did not correspond. In some cases, there were no supporting information at all. Immediately, this should raise alarm bells, the trail of unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure within the supply chain management was also mentioned in the Auditor-General's report which included the procurement of the protective clothing without any requirement for the minimum threshold for local production as required by the procurement regulations.

It was found that several suppliers have directors who are in the service of the state and who have submitted false declarations of their status. This is fraud and these individuals must be dealt with in accordance with the law. It is this kind of behaviour that leads to state capture, state looting and tender fraud. The report further describes how employees performed other remunerative work without approval. The big prices for two range contracts were adjusted without any such provisions in the tender documents and service level agreements. Once again, we reaffirm that corruption and maladministration was easy allowed within the department. A report must be tabled on what disciplinary, punitive measures and legal actions were taken against these individuals.

An amount of R23,700 million was found to be irregularly spent on security contracts. In total contraventions and noncompliance in supply chain management prescripts, the debtors' collection period has regressed year on year, indicative that the collection mechanisms were ineffective and require management intervention. Department has realised an accrual adjustment that liability position, which made that there may be immediate challenges in meeting finances without obligations.

The actual recruiting processes were seriously flawed as new appointees did not have the necessary required qualifications and the experience for the positions. This is evident from the serious financial management and accounting practices that should have been avoided with the right skills. In certain cases, the recruitment processes were completely ignored. It was further found that the reported number of Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) work opportunities created by the department and other party bodies in the province were incomplete, as not all job opportunities created were reported. There was also no adequate control in place to ensure that projects implementations by various public bodies, including the department, were reported into the EPWP reporting system.

In conclusion, the Department of Public Works Roads and Infrastructure must ensure that the consequence management is strengthened and those in transgression with the policies and the procedures must be held accountable. The regularisation of the department's irregular expenditure is in accordance with set policies and procedures. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you. We shall now call upon, Hon Makoma Grace Makhurupetje.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, Hon Premier, MECs, Chief Whip, Leader of the Opposition Party, honourable Members of this august House, good morning. Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure is charged with the mandate of managing all provincial government land and buildings. The implementation of Expanded Public Works Programme, development, and maintenance of the provincial roads' infrastructure network and the construction of social development infrastructure.

In consideration of the reports of first quarter, second, third, fourth quarter and the annual report of the year 2018/19 financial year, the committee make the following observations and recommendations. The committee has noted that the department got qualified audit opinion during the year under review, that is 2018/19. It was noted that the department overall outcomes have remained stagnant over the six-year period which is 2013/14 up to 2018/19.

In relation to assets, in respect of movable tangible capital assets, movable assets disposal disclosed has sold for cash including non-cash disposal resulting in misclassifications of disposal in the annual financial statements. The movable assets amounting to R51 million were disposed however the department did not have adequate internal control to maintain supporting records. The Auditor-General was unable to retain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to substantiate the disposal disclosed in note 39 to the financial statements. Consequently, the A-G was unable to determine any adjustments were required to the financial statements arising from the disposal of movable assets not brought to the account on incorrectly stated. It was established that the other basis for qualifications was on irregular expenditure. It was found that according to the A-G, provincial roads maintenance grant as a conditional grant was not spent on its intended purpose and that constitute noncompliance. According to the A-G, the department contravened requirements of section 17 of the

Division of Revenue Act (DoRA) which states that funds allocated in terms of schedule 4 are spent on their intended purposes.

These funds were transferred to Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) and not utilised in terms of the Division of Revenue Act framework resulting in the irregular expenditure. This irregular expenditure was recorded in note one of the annual financial statements as department did not maintain adequate records of utilisation of these funds. The Auditor-General was unable to determine the full extent of understatement of irregular expenditures stated at R154 million and R130 million in the financial statements as it was indicated. The committee has noted indeed the department received claims arising from potholes and some were resolved through settlements negotiations and remain with other cases that were being defended through the office of the state attorney. Further that, in respect of rates and taxes charged by municipality, the department indicated it has paying rates and taxes. The department disputes payments of properties that are not surveyed and registered in the province as a result, such as state domestic properties in the land registered in the name of the Departmental of Land Reform ... [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Unfortunately, your time has expired.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, I move that this report be adopted as the report of this august House. I move accordingly. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much.

7.2. Consideration and Adoption of the 2019/20 reports of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure

We shall now call upon the committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, I Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the report for 2019/20 of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, for consideration and adoption by this august House.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I recognise, Hon Selamolela.

MR SELAMOLELA

Hon Speaker, I, Selaelo Donald Selamolela, stand to support the report presented by the committee chairperson, Hon Grace Makoma Makhurupetje. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Over to you, committee Chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the first quarter report of the year 2019/20 of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I notice, Hon Mahasela.

MS MAHASELA

Thank you, Deputy Speaker. I, Mahlodi Caroline Mahasela, rise to second the report as presented by Hon Grace Makoma Makhurupetje. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you. Over to you, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the Second Quarter Report of the year 2019/20 of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for the consideration and adoption by this august House.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I recognise, Hon Lekganyane.

MS LEKGANYANE

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Hon Nakedi Maria Lekganyane, rise to second the motion as presented by the committee chairperson, Hon Makoma Makhurupetje. I thank you, Hon Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Over to you, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here Deputy Speaker, to present the Third Quarter Report of the year 2019/20 of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, for consideration and adoption by this august House.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder. I call upon, Hon Aphiri.

MS APHIRI

Thanks very much, Hon Speaker. I stand to support the report as presented by Hon Makhurupetje. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Over to you, committee Chairperson

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Nna, Makoma Makhurupetje, ke ema mo ke emela pego ya kotara ya bone ya ngwaga wa 2019/20 ya Kgoro ya Dikgerekgere le Ditsela gore e amogelwe ke Lekgotlatheramelao bjalo ka pego ya lona.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I notice, Hon Kekana.

MS KEKANA

Ke a leboga, Nna Nakedi Kekana, ke eme mo go tlatša tšhišinyo ya Mohlomphegi Makhurupetje. Ke a leboga Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We shall now refer to the Speakers' List and call upon, Hon Mathe to open the debate.

MR MATHE

Thank you very much ... [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

I am allocating all of you three minutes here, I am not sure as to whether that was the agreement, but I received that it is three minutes.

MR MATHE

Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker, Members of the Executive Council, Members of the Provincial Legislature and Chief Whip of the ruling party and let me extend my greetings to the Leader of the Opposition. We want to indicate that in terms of the matters that we are raising, we would want the department to ensure that there is progress in relation to the investigation in respect of the irregular expenditure that amounted to almost more than R30 million. We need to have corrective action against any officials that are found to be responsible for such huge irregular expenditure. In

fact, we are emphasising that the department needs to ensure that there is corrective action in all these things that are seemed to be unlawful, but nevertheless

Chair, we are also saying that we need to ensure that there is almost compliance in relation to matters pertaining to supply chain management and the department should also ensure that they are able to strengthen their functionality of the other unit within the department, because the supply chain management unit that is the one that has serious challenges, and a serious attention needs to be given to it.

What we have identified as the committee is that there is lack of capacity in relation to the risk management unit and we want the department to ensure that they are able to share the risk reports and also the risk action plans in terms of dealing with the departmental risk profile, but beyond that we want to ensure, because this is what we have observed as a committee, that the department needs to ensure that they put mechanism is in place to reduce the debt account and ensure that they assist the department in dealing with that poor system because we have noted that the level of collection of revenue by the department from the other departments is very much low. We want the department to ensure that they favour the committee with the report in terms of their engagement with the municipalities on the basis that some of the departments are not able to pay their rates and taxes to the municipalities within the province. One other issue that we are not going to be apologetic about is to ensure that the department at all terms move towards ensuring that they are able to reach and meet their employment equity targets.

This is because our view is that the representation of women and people with disabilities in top and senior management must be something that cannot be compromised and we want to see women, and that is our emphasis, we want to see women given the recognition that they deserve in terms of their capacity and skills, not mainly on the basis of the sexuality.

We are also saying that in terms of the roads we want the department to ensure that they can provide us with an updated road condition that must include paved and unpaved roads so that we are able to ensure that we understand the conditions of our roads in our province. The House should also note and appreciate the way Roads Agency Limpopo has been able to turn around their shifts and has been able to respond to the audit findings and has been able to minimise and manage their liabilities in a very satisfactory manner. We want to ... [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Your time has expired, honourable Member.

MR MATHE

Hey, gape nna ga o nkwagatše ngwana mma. Thank you so much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Your three minutes is finished, I'm sorry. We shall now call upon, Hon Managa.

MS MANAGA

Thank you, Hon Speaker. Allow me once again to greet Hon Jossey Buthane, all Members of the Executive Council present in this House and all honourable Members who have joined this virtual Sitting and the departmental representatives. Public Works 2019/20 performance report. Supply chain challenges in the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure should be given the necessary attention because they undermine principles of good and clean governance. Furthermore, it becomes a fertile ground for fraud and corruption, where looters just do as they please taking advantages of the challenges in the department. We are worried and seriously concerned that during the first quarter there was no planned targets to transfer 293 townships to municipalities as expected, but equally there was no planned targets on the number of immovable assets to be verified in the immovable assets register as per the mandatory requirements of national treasury.

From where we are sitting, we do not think that the department has quantifiable figures as to the number of immovable assets the department owns. This department has relegated on its responsibility and cannot account on anything. They are in their slumber land as the taxpayers' money continue to suffer their negligence and incompetence. We could list some critical areas where the department fail to generate planned targets because they are lazy and as they do that, they compromise service delivery. We are disappointed that the department is not keen on recruiting competent personnel to deal with the Infrastructure Delivery Management System (IDMS). This House must demand and update a progress report in this regard within 30 days. We are equally concerned about the capacity of contract management unit which has direct bearing on the wasteful expenditure in the department.

This unit must be strengthened to avoid and minimise negative reports, an unnecessary attention from the Auditor-General. It must be strengthened to close all corruption loopholes that may exist within the department relating to contracts. It is our view that more young people must be incorporated into the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) projects to create jobs and minimise social ills in the community. The saying thus goes an idle mind is the devil's advocate must never be underestimated because young people continue to gobble with drugs and all sorts of social ills in the society. The department must have the potential to created massive jobs for the youth, women, and people with disabilities more than any other department, but because they are lazy it is not happening. Capital infrastructure projects must be completed within the adhered period, time, and budget to avoid incurring of unnecessary expenses which will be highlighted later by the Auditor-General ... [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Honourable Member, unfortunately your time has expired.

MS MANAGA

In conclusion, the wrong things happening in government is that they do not seem to see anything wrong. They are comfortable with everything happening around them. The idea that the ANC government is the leader of the society is just a fallacy, the fact of the matter is that people are on their own. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Hon Managa, when we say your time has expired, it is expired.

MS MANAGA

I'm done, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

We shall now call upon, Hon Maharaj.

MR MAHARAJ

Thank you, Hon Speaker ... [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

In the manner of your dressing. I was saying, should we read anything in the colour that you are wearing?

MR MAHARAJ

No at all. May I proceed, Hon Speaker? The department seems to continue to struggle with ineffective debt collection practices. In the 2018/19 year, the Auditor-General has indicated an impairment of R81,100 million for accrued departmental revenue due to ineffective debt collection practices. This is a serious concern as the failure to recover debt of the government has an impact on the number of services that can be delivered. The percentage of payments made to the suppliers within 30 days was at 93% in the first quarter and 97% in the second quarter instead of the total of 100%. This was due to suppliers that are not registered on the central database. It is unacceptable that the department is continuing to do business with the suppliers who are not registered. It goes against the use of reliable and accountable suppliers in our projects and principles of good governance.

It is disappointing and underwhelming that in the period under review, the department fail to achieve anything with regard to the R293 townships being transported to our municipalities out of the annual target. Across all four quarters, the department only manage to award only 39 planned maintenance projects in 2019/20. This fell far short of the annual target of 47 projects. The main reasons for this under achievements were delays in procurements and delays in appointment at the bad committee. These are matters of scheduling and should be better managed to ensure this does not occur in the future.

The department only manage to achieve 24 planned maintenance projects completed within the agreed contract period and budget in the 2019/20 period. In the instance of delays in appointment of good committees, delays in procurements of materials, and the lack of planning so that the department only reach about half of its annual targets of 47 projects. Ten properties were maintained as the departmental user assert management plan in the first quarter 15 properties were maintained in the second quarter, 11 properties in the third and 19 in the fourth. These were under achievement

in all purchase except in the first. In all four quarters only 55 properties were maintained out of the annual targets of 77. On a positive note, however, the department managed to conduct 596 condition assessments on state-owned buildings and overachieved on the annual target of 560.

It is the same in the sub-programme of construction, the annual target for the number of kilometres of gravel roads upgraded to surface road is 18 kilometres. The target set was far too much little and unrealistic. It is not a set target to be achieved in the second quarter. The department only reach 68 080 sqm of the 190 000 square metres of the annual target in respect of number of square metres of surface roads rehabilitated. This was due to the department waiting on the report of Roads Agency Limpopo and the grant letter which was withheld by the national Department of Transport. Roads Agency Limpopo needs to timeously supply reports necessary for the execution of targets and projects. It is clear from these reports that the department fails to prevent irregular expenditure and non-compliance of the supply chain management. Supply chain management needs to be monitored to ensure compliance. There is a need for consequences for transgression on governance purchase.

In conclusion, the department needs to improve time management regarding procurement and agreed timeline with contractors. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We shall now call upon, Hon Grace Makhurupetje.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, Hon Premier, Chief Whip, Leader of Government Business, Members of the august House. The committee having scrutinised the 2019/20 first quarter, second quarter, third quarter and fourth quarter reports of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure and has made the following observations and recommendations. That the committee though appreciated some improvements on revenue collected in the above-mentioned period under review, it was still concerned about the arrears' rental owed to the department. It was indicated that several residential properties were not recorded in the housing register. Further that debt continues to increase due to the lack of eviction strategies implemented. The committee would continue to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of Operation Hakela as intervention strategy to reduce an attempt to cap the debt book to achieve improved management on rental collection and increase revenue collection.

The dilapidating government buildings remained a serious concern to the committee. It was found that there was a delay in procurement of materials for maintenance. The department must ensure that the prioritisation of maintenance government buildings by the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure as per for the provisions of the post-maintenance strategy which should incorporate directives of the national Department of Public Works mean mark of 2015 in line with section 13(1)(d) three of Giama 2006, 710 engagements with the client department during which maintenance budget to the Department of Public Works.

On consequence management, the department should provide regular reports to both committee and the Legislature on the progress made relating to the investigation in

respect to the R80 million balance of the regular expenditure and corrective actions against officials who were found to be responsible.

The committee raised a concern of non-compliance with fiscal payments cycle, especially submission of UNP and IPP leading to the withdrawal of the late submissions of projects as well as the synergy of the conditional assessment conducted on facilities and lack of maintenance budget. The department must ensure that EPWP funding should be seriously encouraged for job creation and poverty alleviation. Engage other department municipalities and entities to appropriately plan capital projects to increase job creation becomes a reality through EPWP and engage the agency regarding the clear planning of roads infrastructure to achieve its intended objectives.

The issue of 36 bermuda roads identified in total length of 855 and three kilometres are under construction needs and urgent attention to the communities to be ascertain of what is happening so that the department avoid unnecessary violent protests. On behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, I move that this report be adopted as the report of this august House. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. If the MEC wants to respond now on the department, it is your time, MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Hon Masemola.

THE MEC FOR PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Premier, Members of the Executive Council, Chief Whip of the majority party and as well as the Leader of Opposition, Members of the august House. Thank you so much, for the discussions and as well as matters that have been raised for our attention as the department going forward for proper response, correction, and betterment of our systems for better response to matters of societal development.

I take note of all what has been said and say we have been able to go through a vigorous like no state process which has enable us to lift serious matters that would need and require our continuous and urgent attention. At this point in time, we are working very hard around implementing a turnaround plan that talks to quite a lot of matters which honourable Members have raised. I am quite confident and certain that given the fact that the turnaround plan that we do have also agrees with some of the matters which honourable Members have raised. We should be in a better position, as we move on, continue to report and as we plan oversight on us. There should be serious improvements on how concerns have been raised and on how they should be attended to.

Suffice to say just in one or two points that one and upper most on these matters, we have just concluded the finalisation of the organisational structure of the department which is going to be very helpful, working together with Office of the Premier and the Provincial Treasury to get the final approval of Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) so that we can be in a better position to advertise posts for better assembling of the management team that will be able to drive administratively its responsibilities for better administrative efficiency and as well as leadership of the

department. Those matters which have been raised about absence of some chief directors in critical programmes of construction of planning and as well as roads, that matter is receiving attention through that process of finalising the processes around the review of the organisational structure, so we are dealing with that matter.

Equally important regarding the Manenu Traffic Station, I did report, and I think in the past few weeks we have been able to go to the public about our collective endeavour together with the Department of Transport to move towards putting up state-of-the-art facility at Manenu Traffic Station and phases of that project are started. We have been there to handover a contractor to continue with some phases as it has been planned quite understandably as we move on, we should be able within the given timeframe of a very proper state-of-the-art facility at Manenu which would enable people of the province to become major beneficiaries of that facility. We are working on it.

Shortly I could say I take note of all what has been said and I say we do have a renewed energy in the department commitment zeal and of course above them all commitment to serve the people of the province, working together with the portfolio committee and the support of the Legislature as we continue to report, there would be serious improvement in the next round of reporting to the august House. I thank you, Hon Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much, honourable MEC.

- 7.3. Consideration and adoption of 2018/19 Reports of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure second, third, fourth and annual reports of Roads Agency Limpopo.

We shall now call upon the committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, thank you very much, but I think on the writing there are some little errors that need to be corrected. I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the report on behalf of the portfolio committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, which is the report of 2018/19 to this august House for consideration and adoption.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I recognise, Hon Selamolela.

MR SELAMOLELA

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Selelo Donald Selamolela, stand here to second the move by the committee chairperson, Hon Grace Makhurupetje, in the House. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you. Over to you, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, nna, Makoma Makhurupetje, ke ema mo ke emela pego ya kotara ya bobedi ya ngwaga wa 2019/20 ya Roads Agency Limpopo gore e amogelwe ke Lekgotlatheramelao.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I call upon, Hon Phala.

ADV PHALA

Ke tlatša Modulasetulo wa Komiti ka pego yeo a e beilego pele ga Lekgotlatheramelao gore e dumelelwe ke Lekgotlatheramelao bjalo ka pego ya lona. Ke mo tlatša ke realo Modulasetulo. Mošate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Ke go kwele o mo tladitše. I shall now call upon, the committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Deputy Speaker, I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to move for the consideration and adoption of the Report of 2018/19 third quarter of the Roads Agency Limpopo, on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of the Department of Public Works Roads and Infrastructure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I notice, Hon Radzilani.

MS RADZILANI

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I rise to second the motion as presented by the portfolio chair, Hon Makoma Grace Makhurupetje. Thanks, Hon Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you. Over to you, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the 2018/19 fourth quarter report of Roads Agency Limpopo on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, for consideration and adoption by this august House.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I recognise, Hon Lekganyane.

MS LEKGANYANE

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I, Hon Nakedi Maria Lekganyane, rise to second the move as presented by the Hon Chair. I thank you, Hon Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Over to you, committee chairperson.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the 2018/19 Annual Report of Roads Agency Limpopo, on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for the consideration and adoption by this august House.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? I notice, Hon Mahasela.

MS MAHASELA

Ndza khensa, Xandla xa Xipikara. Mina, Mahlodi Caroline Mahasela, ndzi yima laha ku seketela leswi nga vulavuriwa hi Muchaviseki Makhurupetje. Ndza khensa.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

U seketerile. U seketerile. We shall now refer to the Speakers' List and call upon Hon Falaza Mdaka to open the debate.

MR MDAKA

Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. Ndza khensa eka Manana Mahasela ku va a ndzi pfulele tindlela leswaku ndzi vulavula hi ririmi leri ndzi nga ti lumeki eka njhekanjhekisano lowu hi nga na wona namuntlha. Ndza swi tiva leswaku nkarhi wa mina wu komile swinene. Ndzi ya vulavula hi mhaka ya Ejensi ya Mapatu ya Limpopo, xiviko xa lembe na lembe, na swiviko hinkwaswo leswi nga boxiwa hi mutshamaxitulu wa hina.

Ma swi tiva leswaku mhaka ya mapatu i mhaka leyi nga kusuhi ngopfu na vaakitiko va xifundzankulu xa Limpopo. I mhaka leyi tikaka swinene. Hi lo kateka eka nkarhi wa sweswi ku nga na COVID-19, MEC a ta va a tsutsumile na xifundzankulu lexi hinkwaxo a timela ndzilo laha vaakitiko a va ta va karhi va lwa leswaku mapatu ya vona ya antswisiwa swinene.

Loko hi languta xiviko lexi hi nga na xona laha, xi komba leswaku hakunene Ejensi ya Mapatu ya ringeta hi laha yi kotaka ha kona, tanihiloko yi vula leswaku yi tiyimiserile ku tiyisisa leswaku ku va na mapatu lawa ya hlanganisaka ikhonomi ya xifundzankulu xa hina, na ku va va tirha hi ku tiyimisela, na ku tirha ku tlula laha va nga ti vekela leswaku va fanele ku tirha va fika kona. Swi ti komba hi laha loko mi langutisa eka timali leti va nga ti tirhisa eka lembe ximali ra 2018/19, ti hundzile hi kwalomu ka va

R830 wa timiliyoni, ku tlula mpimo lowu a va ti vekele ku tirha ha wona. Leyi i mhaka ya kahle swinene, kambe loko hi languta hi kuma leswaku ku komba leswaku mhaka ya timali a yi fambi kahle, a va na mali yo ringanela ku endla mapatu lamantshwa.

Loko hi languta hi kuma leswaku eka tindhawu to tala laha exifundzeninkulu xa Limpopo, mapatu ya hina ya na magoji, laha swimovhana leswintsongo swo fana tiGolf swo fika swi helela kwalaho. Minkarhi yo tala hi kuma leswaku vanhu va poncela hi mavhilwa mambirhi, hikuva mapatu a ma lulamisiwi eka magoji lawa ya nga kona. Hambileswi eka nkarhi wa sweswi hi vulaka leswaku hi le eka Lockdown, swa fanela leswaku tindhawu ta vuphumba, mapatu ya tona ya lulamisiwa kahle. Ku fanele ku va na ntirhisano exikarhi ka Ndzawulo ya Mitirho ya Mfumo, Mapatu na Miako na Ejensi ya Mapatu ya Limpopo leswaku magoji lawa ya nga kona ya hunguteka.

Swi na nkoka leswaku mali ya ku hlayisa mapatu yi tirha hi ndlela leyi faneleke. Swa ti komba leswaku Ejensi ya Mapatu ya swi kota ku tirhisa mali hikokwalaho ka xiviko xa odiri xa matirhisela yo amukeleka ya timali eka malembe manharhu hi ku landzelelana. Kambe, a swi tiveki leswaku mali leyi yi tirha hi ndlela leyi yi faneleke ku tirha ha kona, hikuva mapatu yan'wani mi ta kuma leswaku ya tirhiwa sweswi, ku pfariwa magoji laha na lahaya, kambe endzhaku ka masiku mi kuma kuri ya pfulekile nakambe.

Hi fanele hi tiyisisa leswaku ku na vukorhokeri byo khomeka emigangeni ya hina. Xandla xa Xipikara, ndza swi tiva leswaku nkarhi wa mina i wuntsongo swinene. Hi marito lawa ndzi rhandza ku hoyozela leswaku MEC wa hina wa Mitirho ya Mfumo, Mapatu na Miako a ringete ku nghenelela ku tiyisisa leswaku mhaka leyi Oditara-Jenerala a nga yi vula leyi kombaka leswaku Ejensi ya Mapatu ya Limpopo yi ve na ku tirhisa mali ku tlula mpimo yo ringana R832 wa timiliyoni, yi va mhaka leyi lulamisiwaka ku ya emahlweni. Va nga kumi ntsena xiviko xa matirhiselo ya timali xo amukeleka, kuve mali yi tirhisiwa ku tlula mpimo. Swi na nkoka leswaku timali loko swi fanela va nyikiwa, kambe ku tlhela ku va na ntwanano wa leswaku timali ti fanele ku tirha leswi ti faneleke ku tirha swona. Leswi swi ta endla leswaku mali yi nga tekiwi yi tlhelela endzhaku.

Leswi hi vulaka swona hi leswaku ku nga vi na mali na yintsongo leyi tlhelelaka endzhaku yi ya eka timali ta tiko yi nga tirhanga laha eLimpopo, mufambisi wa ntirho wa siku ra namuntlha. Ndza swi vona leswaku onge nkarhi wa mina wu komile. Ndza khensa. Ndzi nga ku heteli nkarhi. Ndzi na ku tshemba leswaku mhaka leyi yi ta lulamisiwa, mapatu ya hina ya ta lulamisiwa. Public Works a yi lulamise migodi emapatwini. [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Nkarhi wa wena wu herile.

MR MDAKA

Ndzi khensile. Ndzi mi twile. Ndzi endle xipikara xi va ehenhla ku ri ndzi mi twa mufambisi wa ntirho.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Hon Managa, it's over to you.

MS MANAGA

Ndza khensa Xipikara, Muchaviseki Jeremiah Ndou. Ndzi pfumeleleni ndzi xeweta Muchaviseki Buthane na vatirhi kulorhi hinkwavo.

Today I am going to debate on Roads Agency Limpopo. The EFF government will ensure that there is labour absorption and construction of quality roads for all communities by employing people in communities to maintain and ensure sustainability of the roads.

The above commitment by the EFF will eradicate the current mess and alleviate frustrations and risks encountered by our communities on daily basis on all roads of Limpopo. The EFF government will ensure allocated funds are used as per legal prescripts to maximise service delivery and accountability. Over reliance on consultants whilst officials have been employed to do the same job should come to an end with immediate effect. Can the RAL update this House if they have updated the risk management plan and asset register for all roads in Limpopo? Did RAL conduct any visual assessments on all paved and gravel roads as required by DoRA? The EFF demands the submission of the report on the state of all bridges in Limpopo including; when last were the bridges subjected to assessments?

It should be noted that every five years there must be visual assessments of all the bridges. This House deserves to know if RAL has credible asset register on plant. Also, to inform us if there have been any laws over the period in question. How many bridges were completed in the 2018/19 financial year? Did they all comply with the agency plans? Were there any deviations due to political pressures? Has the organisational structure been aligned to the organisational needs? What are the internal controls to ensure that the A-G's findings are implemented without delay? What were the partnerships during the financial year, and what was their contribution and conditions for such partnerships?

Can the agency present to this House the equity targets and a report as to whether such targets were achieved, in particular on employment and empowerment of women, people with disabilities and the youth? RAL is known for its skyrocketing numbers of Bermuda roads. What is the plan of RAL to complete these roads? Have funds been secured to complete those roads? How many job opportunities were created and categorised? The agency must indicate how many were on EPWP and how many were full time employment.

In conclusion, let me indicate that we require the agency to submit consequence management report of its audit findings. The EFF government will abolish tenders for construction, maintenance services, consultants as well as professional services. I thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much, honourable Member. Hon Maharaj, you are recognised.

MR MAHARAJ

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. RAL is to the province what SAA is to the country, a failed entity that continues to be funded by the taxpayers, for an entity that is on its last legs. The A-G's report for RAL for the period 2018/19 reads like a horror story. The report indicates that the roads infrastructure programme has regressed adversely from 2017/18 and 2018/19 respectively.

There has been a clear lack of management in this entity in overseeing the daily operations. There has been a repeat of misstatements with the Financial and Annual Performance Reports, a cause for serious concern and indicators have raised red flags. In relation to the supply chain management, irregular, wasteful and fruitless expenditure the following serious transgression on policy and procedures were identified: with regards to the procurement processes at least 38 awards to the value of R571,319 million were found to be in contravention with the policy requirements; ranging from not having the prescribed number of quotations from the relevant suppliers, suppliers whose tax matters have not been declared to SARS, competitive bids that were not adjudicated in accordance with the bids adjudication committee; bids awarded without inviting additional bidders; bids allowed that were not in accordance with preference points that were allowed to be calculated according to the requirements and [inaudible] not completed whether they were employed by the state or connected to any person employed by the state.

Contract management was also found to be a concern as two contracts to the value of R1,7 million were amended and were extended without required approval by the delegated official. In addition, nine contractors and service providers were not monitored monthly. The value of each contract was R56 billion. There has been serious transgression with regards to compliance management and [inaudible] to goods and services below R500 million being procured without obtaining any of the relevant documents in terms of Treasury Regulations 16(1)(a).

An amount of R944,700 million was declared as irregular expenditure for the period. The previous years' irregular expenditure of R1,9 billion was not investigated and no accountability or corrective action was taken against the relevant persons. Similarly, to the irregular expenditure, fruitless and wasteful expenditure for the previous year amounting to R388 000 was not investigated to determine who was liable for these losses. Clearly there is no accountability and people are free to do as they please without any repercussions for their actions.

A risk for a pending lawsuit against damaged properties and land claims is cause for concern as no provision for any liability that could arise has been made in the financial statements. Further to this, it must be noted that ... [SILENCE]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Hon Maharaj, you have frozen. Anyway, your time has expired. Can we have Hon Makhurupetje?

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Ro livhuwa tshifhinga, Deputy Speaker. The committee having scrutinised the first, second, third and fourth quarter reports of 2018/19 and the Annual Report of Roads Agency Limpopo have made the following observations and recommendations:

- The committee has noted that the A-G was unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support the reason for the variants between the planned targets and the achieved targets as reported in the Annual Performance Report. Thus, the entity did not have an adequate record keeping system to enable reliable reporting on the achievements of the indicators from the reported achievement in the Annual Performance Report.
- It was also indicated that effective performance processes and procedures, and the management thereof had not been adequately developed and implemented because of the slow response of the previous years' audit findings.
- In relation to the above it was found that senior management of the department did not adequately oversee the operations of the entity as the financial statement and Annual Performance Report contained material misstatements not detected by the public entities' own system of internal control;
- Furthermore, the entity's management of records was inadequate in maintaining performance information that supported the reported information. This includes information relating to collection, verification, storage and reporting of the actual performance information.

In terms of the financial health of RAL, the committee has noted that the material uncertainty relating to financial sustainability in the financial statements indicate that the public entity incurred a deficit of R832 million and in the previous year they incurred R924 million of deficit during the year ended 31 March 2019. As of that, the public entity's current liability exceeds its current assets by R332 million. The average number of days taken for creditors to be paid decreased from 83 to 73 days. The average, however, is 30 days. The high number of days is an indication that the public entity was experiencing a small margin of cash flow problems which can lead to possible growing concern to financial viability difficulties which can have a negative impact on service delivery.

In terms of the public entity's efforts to address the cash flow and liquidity challenges, it did not yield the desired results to minimise the public entity's exposure to the cash flow risk of liquidity problem. This led to growing concern and financial viability difficulties and therefore, the agency must ensure consistently improved the management of its audit action plans, capacitate the office of the CFO to deal with supply chain management and financial management and develop sound records managed by systems to improve an audit ... [INTERJECTION]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Your time has come to an end, Hon Makhurupetje.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

On behalf of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, I move that this report be adopted as the report of this august House. I so move accordingly, Deputy Speaker. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Now we move to the next item.

7.4. Consideration and Adoption of the 2019/20 reports of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure.

Committee chairperson, you are recognised.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present a report of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for the Consideration and Adoption of the 2019/20 Reports for Roads Agency Limpopo. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? Hon Lekganyane, you are recognised.

MS LEKGANYANE

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I, Nakedi Maria Lekganyane, stand here to second the report as presented by the chairperson of the portfolio committee. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We come to item 7.4.1. Committee chairperson, you may go ahead.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the 2019/20 first quarter report for Roads Agency Limpopo on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for consideration and adoption by this august House. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? Hon Seono, you are recognised.

MS SEONO

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I raise my hand to second the motion as presented by the honourable chairperson of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Hon Makoma Makhurupetje. Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Committee chairperson, you may go ahead.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the 2019/20 second quarter report of Roads Agency Limpopo on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for consideration and adoption by this august House. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? Hon Monyamane, you are recognised.

MS MONYAMANE

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I rise to second the move by Hon Makhurupetje, the chairperson of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure. Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Committee chairperson, you may continue.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

I, Makoma Grace Makhurupetje, stand here to present the 2019/20 third quarter report of Roads Agency Limpopo on behalf of the Portfolio Committee of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure for consideration and adoption by this august House. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Is there any seconder? Hon Phala, you are recognised.

ADV PHALA

Thanks very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. I hereby rise to second the motion as tabled by the committee chairperson, Hon Makoma Grace Makhurupetje. Thanks very much, Hon Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Committee chairperson you may continue.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

Motlatša Mospikara, ke eme mo ke le Makoma Makhurupetje, ke emetše go bea Pego ya Kotara ya Bone ya Ngwaga wa Ditšhelete 2019/20 ya Roads Agency Limpopo legatong la Komiti ya Mešomo ya Setšhaba, Ditsela le Mananeokgoparara gore pego ye e be Pego ya Ngwako wo wa Lekgotlatheramelao, e ahlaahlwe e be e amogelwe semmušo. I so move. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Ke mang yo a tlatšago se se boletšwego ke modulasetulo wa komiti? Hon Lekganyane, you are recognised.

MS LEKGANYANE

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. I, Nakedi Maria Lekganyane, hereby second the move as presented by Hon Makoma Makhurupetje, the chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure. I thank you, Modulasetulo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. We will refer to the Speakers' List. We call upon, Hon Kedibone Lebea to open the debate. You have got 10 minutes.

MS LEBEA

Hon Deputy Speaker, Hon Premier, Members of the Executive Council and distinguished Members of the august House, a blessed morning to you all. Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) was established by the Northern Province Roads Agency Limited and Provincial Roads Act, 1998. Its main objective was to manage and administer the provincial road infrastructure, which includes both the construct of new roads and maintenance of existing road infrastructure.

According to section 195 of the Constitution, the government and its entities should utilise resources effectively and efficiently. Hence, the Legislature's role is to scrutinise the information submitted to ensure that the mandate set out in legislation and developmental plans of government are fulfilled. The president in his economic recovery plan, has declared infrastructure investment as a catalyst for mass job creation and economic growth as well as to accelerate economic reforms to unlock investment and growth. In the first quarter in asset management the aim is to implement, manage and monitor effective asset management system in terms of number of updates of road infrastructure asset register. One update was done during the quarter under review from the quarterly target of one as of the annual target of four. It was also established that in terms of the number of updates of the non-infrastructure asset register, it was found that one update was done during the quarter under review from the quarterly target of one, as of the annual target of four.

It was further established that there was no target of several non-infrastructure assets verifications conducted on non-infrastructure assets. The financial management is set to ensure the improved quality of overall financial management via efficient implementation of approved financial policies. This is with a view to ensure appropriate management of the entity's budget in respect to infrastructure and capital projects; operational expenditure over the MTEF and to review, and update delegation of authority. In terms of clean audit report, there was no target during the quarter under review. The committee appreciated that it was noted during the quarter under review that delegation of authority for the 2019/20 was finalised on several reviews and six updates of the delegations of authority. One was achieved from the quarter target of one as of the annual target of one. It was noted that with regard to implemented

corrective actions to rectify weaknesses identified by the Auditor-General, there was no target during the quarter under review as of the annual target of 100%.

The infrastructure expenditure spending within the budget during the quarter under review was 7% of the targeted spending within 25 to 100% of the allocated budget as of 100% annual spending of the allocated budget was spent. This was interpreted as not achieved due to late submission of invoices by service providers. The planned intervention was indicated to continuously encourage the service providers to submit invoices on time. The committee has further noted the classification of total road network in the country to be 98 531 km of strategic economic routes. The classification shows that 20 274 km of that belong to our province of Limpopo, about 74 757 under the municipalities and 3 500 km managed by national government. The classification seriously calls for a need to invest in a network of economic infrastructure designed for medium and long term economic and social objectives. The committee noted the district network backlog in accordance with performed visual assessment process in 2016/17 at Capricorn, Waterberg, Vhembe, Sekhukhune, and Mopani.

The above in total shows that the province has a backlog of over 14 000 km that needs attention. About 12 was reported in the previous financial year and 41,9 km of major roads in the province have been upgraded to date. About 122,51 km lane has been rehabilitated, 254 971 km² were resealed and 13 km to social amenities has been upgraded, 73 km has been re-gravelled and 91 164 km² of blacktop patching through potholes was repaired. The committee will continue monitoring development of about 16 project designs. The updating of the upgrading master plan conducted visual assessments on all paved roads and gravel roads every three years as required by DoRA.

Let us also further commend the work of the department for being able to fill two vacant posts in the board of the entity which will make sure that [inaudible] at RAL can be accounted for and will be executed diligently. In terms of the legislative framework created by the culture of cooperative governance the committee has noted that the entity in terms of number of companies' specific compliance checklist have been assessed and updated to ensure strict adherence to statutory and requirements to the entity's business. Amongst others the Public Finance Management Act reports companies' specific compliance checklist and updated to ensure adherence to regulations.

During the quarter under review in terms of the number of reports on motor vehicle accidents, claims and litigations updated are submitted to the board to ensure that the board is aware of all motor vehicle accident claims and litigations. One report from the quarter target of one report motor vehicle accident claims and litigation updated and submitted to the board to ensure that the board is aware and claims from all those litigations are handled properly.

In respect of Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) to ensure compliance to all applicable safety, health, and environmental management legislation, and in terms of the number of environment management guidelines developed as per IOS, zero achievement for the quarter under review for environment management guidelines developed as per IOS as of the annual target of one. It was noted in the second quarter that guidelines were developed and were available in a draft format. However, as of this quarter, it was indicated on annual output that environment management

guidelines were developed as per IOS. The committee will continue monitoring progress and compliance on Safety, Health and Environment.

The committee has further noted that the above guidelines derived from Safety, Health, Environment and Quality (SHEQ) policy were presumably submitted and approved by the board. The challenge alluded was shortage of internal specialised technical capacity and expertise within the health and safety unit has contributed largely to delays in developing the health and safety guidelines. The planned intervention was to the effect that all unachieved initiatives have been incorporated into the 2020/21 Annual Performance Plan for the Governance, Risk and Compliance Business unit.

The committee will continue to monitor the establishment of a functioning health and safety committee to promote a safe working environment and culture in line with applicable legislation, regulations, and internal best practices as in 2018/19 this indicator was never achieved, though it did not appear in the 2019/20 financial year. It was reported in 2018/19 that the entity did not manage to establish the functioning health and safety committee. It is our role as the portfolio committee to make sure that during the year under review the entity can conclude and complete the functioning health and safety. The entity has further managed to fill six out of the seven advertised posts for the quarter under review. The committee further encouraged the entity to improve on recruitment and capacity building in organisation and as the committee will forever encourage the entity to adhere to recruitment policies that focus mainly on women and people living with disabilities.

We further commend the entity for having adhered to the implementation of its audit findings. As at the end of the fourth quarter, the entity had resolved 31 out of 41 audit findings which equals to achievement of 75,6%. During the quarter findings in supply chain management, monitoring and evaluation the entity has shown that the finding in the Annual Financial Statements had been dealt with. However, in the first quarter report, the entity shows that the annual financial statement was not finalised due to non-verification of assets due to the national lockdown. When you don't invest in infrastructure you are going to pay sooner or later.

We, therefore, as the portfolio committee want to put a disclaimer to say we are not fighting as individuals but as a system and the rules of engagement therefore will be consequence management, consequence management and consequence management. Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. I call upon Hon Managa.

MS MANAGA

Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker. Allow me, for the last time to recognise, Hon Joseph Buthane, who is the leader of EFF, all MECs present and all honourable Members in this virtual Sitting not forgetting all the departmental representatives who have joined us this afternoon.

There is no major improvement in the state of roads in Limpopo when comparing this financial year with the previous one. Comparatively speaking, this agency is not different from other parastatals in Limpopo which are marred by maladministration, financial mismanagement and ignorance of legal frameworks and prescripts regulating public funds. Why does the ANC-led government continue keeping the same team which fails to implement recommendations, resolutions, and audit findings? The EFF is not surprised by these deliberate failures as they are inspired by the Premier of Limpopo who cannot act on any department or institution unless it threatens his being in office. Ke šebešebe mo Limpopo for those who continue to disregard the basic guidelines of serving the people. Like in the previous financial years, below issues have not been resolved and we want to know what gives such people stamina to continue being on autopilot. It is disappointing when you know that the below facts remain outstanding and there was under performance:

- Lack of achievement of employment equity to in terms of representation target women and people with disabilities in top and senior management posts;
- Non-implementation of the risk management strategy;
- Delays in updating non-infrastructure asset register and the fixed asset register and lastly
- Lack of progress on capacitation of planning and design unit which forces the agency to over rely on consultants.

The EFF Limpopo submits that a report be submitted on the over commitments and what causes such over commitments and how are they will be resolve with time frames relating to roads infrastructure. Can the agency give reasons why they are failing to act on audit recommendations? A detailed report on litigation should be presented to this House including the financial implications on the operations of the agency. Having noted that RAL is evasive when coming to matters of recording assets it will be vital for them to present to this House the updated road condition data – paved roads, unpaved roads, including instrumental automated road survey data, traffic data, safety audit and bridge condition report. RAL is in a state of shambles with the capacity to build only 13 kilometres of road in the entire province due to lack of proper financial management.

This under performance makes mockery of service delivery in Limpopo. The government has turned our people into a laughing stock whilst further stripping them off the little dignity left of them. The national Department of Transport withheld the PRMG (Provincial Roads Maintenance Grant) funds due non-compliance with the conditions of the grant by the entity in the previous year. This resulted in underspending on the road preventative maintenance and flood damaged roads by R625 million, 90% against the budget of R691 million. Is there any commitment in writing that funds will be spent as per allocation in the Roads Agency Limpopo?

Roads Agency Limpopo has betrayed its own values and missions as there is no accountability, reliability, transparency as well as commitment. RAL's problems are far from over given the attitude of government towards the delivery of capital infrastructure projects in Limpopo. There are no systems in RAL to steer it to greater heights which is to improve the living conditions of the people in Limpopo for the better.

As I conclude, let me indicate that RAL is not a profitable, viable business because it cannot generate its own revenue. In fact, it is dysfunctional. It is dead. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much. Hon Maharaj ... Hon Maharaj. We seem to have lost Hon Maharaj. Hon Makhurupetje, you are recognised.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

I am told I have 10 minutes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Who told you that?

MS MAKHURUPETJE

The Order Paper.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

You have 10 minutes.

MS MAKHURUPETJE

At long last. Ri khou fhedza zwino. The Deputy Speaker, Hon Premier, Members of the Executive Council, Members of this august House, ndi masiari. Inhlukanhi. The committee having scrutinised the 2019/20 first, second, third and fourth quarter performance reports of Roads Agency Limpopo, we made the following observations that we would like to recommend to both the department and Roads Agency Limpopo. The committee has noted that during the period under review we are more worried about RAL's liquidity situation. For 2019/20 RAL is over committed by an amount of R798 million. The matter needs urgent attention from the department. Within that period, 59% was spent on infrastructure expenditure within the budget.

The indicator for the year was not achieved as it was indicated that the provincial roads management grant was withheld due to failure to comply with the conditions of the grant and RAL will comply with the conditions of the PRMG working with the department. But that needs to be followed up. It was also acknowledged that RAL has a challenge of limited financial resources which hinders infrastructure delivery which is a pressure point for RAL itself. The committee, however appreciated a report that as an intervention mechanism the agency will continue to engage strategic partnerships with the private sector like the mines and explore alternative financing mechanisms. The committee appreciated completed services of transaction advisor to explore various financing mechanism to RAL.

When coming to emerging contractors, the committee has noted that in the 2019/20 financial year an updated database for emerging contractors was not achieved in all the quarters. Justification was that data base for emerging contractors are compiled

at that project level. It was supposed to have been achieved in quarter three of 2018/19 which unfortunately even by 2019/20 it was never achieved.

On work opportunities, let me indicate that, Roads Agency Limpopo has achieved 1 210 number of work opportunities whereby the annual target was 1 155. It was indicated that the target for creating work opportunities has been overachieved in both quarter four and the target for the year. It was noted that it was as a result of several 10 key projects starting with construction activities. In the previous meetings with the department, the committee and the entity showed that it was functional but lacked with members to be a full board.

During the previous meeting the MEC has showed that two officials from the department and Provincial Treasury have been appointed to the board. However, one member from the Department of Transport was not yet appointed by the MEC but we appreciate that the MEC has shown the commitment to ensure that the matter receive necessary and urgent attention. Well done honourable MEC, and congratulations on your intervention. Keep up the good work. We really appreciate and we can see that indeed in both the department and RAL things are turning around. Continue to do good work. We really appreciate, honourable MEC.

The agency and the department must ensure that they continually update the committee on filling of vacant critical positions, update the committee on planning, design, and maintenance of road infrastructure in the province for both shareholder and RAL by regular sharing of documents, and adhere to provincial road maintenance grant within strict conditions. We will monitor this that indeed the road maintenance grant is never used for different reason again as the committee. On behalf of the Portfolio Committee of the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, I move that this report be adopted as the report of this august House. I move accordingly. Thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Thank you very much, Hon Makhurupetje. May I now invite the MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Hon Masemola, to respond to the debate?

THE MEC FOR PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Once more, thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. Good afternoon to you, Hon Premier, Members of the Executive Council, leaders of the opposition parties, the Leader of Opposition, chairperson of the committee and honourable Members. I want to start by acknowledging the presentations made by honourable Members regarding the discussions or debate on the state of the entity – Roads Agency Limpopo.

Firstly, the reports which Members have requested will be made available as we move on so that we can be able to give an account of those areas which you have raised concerns on for better oversight as well as accountability on our side; notwithstanding all that has been raised. In our endeavour to reposition the entity for continuous work on roads infrastructure and maintenance, and on our continuous work to reposition the entity for prudent financial management; we have identified 12 areas that constitute focus points for us through the board of the entity to re-engineer and sharpen the systems of the entity for better compliance and delivery of services. But, above them

all like I have said, better continuous confidence be given to the Legislature and the people of the province on how resources appropriated are being utilised. That includes, compliance with the statutes of the republic on the conditionality of some monies that have been allocated to us for better use by the entity.

On all those 12 areas I am certain that working together through our systems we would have to ensure continuous improvement on how the entity handles its affairs. Some of those matters, just to mention a few, relate to our systems on planning and design. Therefore, prioritisation of projects and engagement of stakeholders is vital so that there is certainty and understanding on how we are intending to unfold the actual implementation thereof of this programme. It is not only limited to that. It does as well talk to matters of malfeasance and sleaze on how we put mitigating factors to ensure maximisation of our efforts to put the resources to proper use. Roads maintenance and challenges on the roads of the province regarding potholes, as Hon Phil Mdaka has said, is one such matter which receives our attention. We have been able to put together teams between the departmental roads maintenance and Roads Agency Limpopo so that we can ensure integrated approach and complementarity of their capacities, efforts and resources. This is to try and respond to what appears to be a bit of a challenge in many parts of the province.

Of course, in the department there are companies and service providers that have been contracted previously to make sure that they deal with issues of road maintenance. Put together all these capacities, I am quite certain that we will have to minimise and mitigate on this mammoth task that is confronting us as a province. Importantly thereof, like I have said, it is our continuous effort to make sure that up to so far the entity stabilises. The fact is we have unqualified audit report, and there are other processes that have been underway from the Provincial Treasury and national government to try and manage to deal with issues of yesterday. I am sure that once that report is made available to us, we are going to have closure on that part. Therefore, we will present an entity with a new posture, with renewed energy, renewed stamina and commitment that we have demonstrated through the colleagues in the entity and the department.

The integrated and working together of the two systems administratively is what is at the centre of our repositioning of the entity. That we will do working together with the department. With these few words, let me indicate that we would like to commit ourselves that we will continue to make sure that we account to the portfolio committee. In as far as reports are concerned, they will also be made available to the Legislature for continuous oversight on us so that we are able to live up to the expectations of the people of the province.

With these few words, I want to thank you, Hon Deputy Speaker, for the opportunity and this task given to us. We will indeed come back to the Legislature through the portfolio committee regarding those reports that have been requested. Thank you so much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

I wish to honourable Members who attended today's session and participated in the debate.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Are there any announcements? There is none.

9. ADJOURNMENT

This House is adjourned to Tuesday, 10 November 2020 at 10:00. The venue will be communicated in due course. Thank you very much. Enjoy the rest of your day.

[THE HOUSE IS ADJOURNED]