

The Heartland of Southern Africa- Development is about people

2015 Limpopo Appropriation Bill



MEC for Finance Kgolane Phala tabling the Budget in the Legislature

MEC KGOLANE ALFRED PHALA'S SUMMERISED VERSION OF THE FIRST BUDGET OF THE 2014-2019 TERM OF OFFICE TO THE LEGISLATURE ON 10TH MARCH 2015, Lebowakgomo.

In this historic year, the 2014-2019 budget speech is dedicated to the memory of the heroes and heroines of the struggle past and present, known and unknown, named and unnamed, alive and passed on coming from this beautiful Province of legends. We stand on the shoulders of these giants of the freedom struggle. We thank them for their immensely selfless, time tested and tireless dedication to our liberation. They have demonstrated that we are an indomitable, tenacious, courageous, and a resilient people capable of enduring unbelievable hardships and overcoming enormous adversity. We pay tribute to their undying memory.

SIXTY YEARS OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER.

This year 2015, our nation celebrates sixty years of the Freedom Charter, the outstanding people's manifesto that came out of the Congress of the People in June 1955. The Freedom Charter was a clarion call for a new, non-racial, non-sexist, united, democratic and prosperous South Africa being fought for. Since 1994 we began the construction of a society based on the freedom charter.

Through the budgets appropriated by this august house over the years we have built houses, roads,

bridges, schools, hospitals, clinics and libraries for the people of our province. We have provided Learner Teacher Support Material (LTSM), medicines, patient food, school nutrition, SMME support, agriculture support, and so on. We have succeeded exceptionally well in the construction of a new society on the ruins apartheid. As a people we are very proud of the achievements we have scored in the twenty years of democracy and freedom.

We hope that this year of the freedom charter will give impetus to the work we are doing or continuing to build a South Africa envisaged in that people's charter. We are confident that today is better than yesterday and that tomorrow would be even better than today.

“dedicated to the memory of the heroes and heroines of the struggle past and present”

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THE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE OF THE COUNTRY.

The economy of our country has not been performing well in recent years due to:

The Global Economic Meltdown which started around 2009, the recent Industrial Strikes in mining sector and Agricultural sector, Limited Technical Skills in the labour market to support emerging industries such as ICT sector. The energy challenges.

We have in the recent period revised down the Annual GDP growth because of the bleak global situation it does not look like there will be miracle happening to our economy this year or very soon. We all need to be prudent in how we allocate and use the resources we have. In these difficult times we must not swallow more than we can chew. We must all strive to do more with less. Ensure that we implement the National Development Plan, carry out the Medium Term strategic Framework (MTSF) and meet the basic needs of our people. We must use the limited resources to deliver water, sanitation, electricity, education, health, roads and human settlements for our people. We are confident that today is better than yesterday and that tomorrow will be even better. The bad times will definitely pass.



THE NEW ERA OF DOING MORE WITH LESS.

The National Executive through the Minister of Finance has announced a Medium Term Expenditure Framework period of doing more with less. The national budget is being weaned-off loans it has depended on in the previous years. During this period of the financial years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 we will target patterns of under-expenditure, non-essential items and all uncommitted resources. This is a period of far-reaching belt-tightening, of doing more with less, or reducing inefficiency and waste, of enhancing the cost-containment plans and of reinforcing the austerity measures, during this period budgets will be cut to the bone and no additional funds would be provided for anything.

We should all spend within our means and the available resources. Nevertheless, provisions of basic services will be protected to minimise the impact on frontline service delivery. We will continue to pursue greater efficiency and value for money in achieving our goals. We will continue to meet government priorities as set out in the MTSF and strive to achieve all the goals of the NDP. This is not going to be easy but we must all be committed to work together for the success of our country and nation.

While government is implementing belt-tightening measures, we wish to re-iterate that communities



should also fulfill this developmental obligation through safe-guarding public properties such as water infrastructure, schools, roads and health facilities. We have noted a tendency to destroy public infrastructure through community protests. This tendency should be condemned and discouraged at all costs. Destruction of public property is essentially negating the imperative of basic services, particularly to the poor and the working people.

THE WITHDRAWAL OF SECTION 100 (1) (B) INTERVENTION.

The National Executive has decided to reduce the intervention in the province from Sec 100(1)(b) to Sec 100(1)(a). This shows that National government is confident of the progress we have registered in turning the province around. Let us not forget that when the National government intervened in this province in December 2011, in terms of section 100 (1)(b) of the Constitution of the RSA the provincial government had :-

- An accumulated unauthorized expenditure amounting to R2, 7 billion. An overdraft amounting to R1, 7 billion and there was insufficient cash management across the province. Ran out of cash and would have failed to pay its employees as well as suppliers and providers of goods and services. Implemented the OSD in some departments without making the necessary provisions in their budget. Widespread poor SCM and Widespread poor contract management.

The objectives of the intervention, which was most severe to be implemented in any part of the Republic since 1994, included:-

- To restore the province to a sound financial footing. To hold accountable all those responsible for the serious transgressions. To introduce systematic improvement in key processes for the whole Limpopo Administration. To assist the province to upgrade its systems and capabilities to ensure full compliance with all legislation, particularly the PFMA. To ensure sustainable capacity is built in the province. To strengthen the oversight responsibility and central control of finances by the provincial treasury.

Today we can safely report that the Provincial Government is fully capable of running its financial affairs: -

- We have eliminated the provincial overdraft. We have reduced the unauthorized expenditure. There is a significant improvement in the financial management in the province. Action was taken against the officials found to have contravened the law. Criminal and internal disciplinary processes are either finalized or underway. A provincial infrastructure development hub is be-

ing setup to fast-track infrastructure delivery in the province. There is improved compliance with the 30 day invoice payment and we have restored the province to a sound financial footing.

The Provincial Government has signed an MOA with National Government to facilitate the transition from Sec 100(1) (b) to Sec 100(1)(a). The Sec 100(1) (a) is a less severe and intrusive form of intervention. National Government will through issuing directives monitor the Provincial Government. Through the MOA we are committed to finalise all other outstanding issues including amongst others,

- The disciplinary cases underway. Strengthening the C.F.O offices. Building capacity for infrastructure delivery. Enhancing the management of records. Robustly responding to litigations against government and improve the compliance with legislation.

We are looking forward to enhanced financial governance in the provincial government. We commit ourselves not to allow the province to degenerate and collapse again.

We take this opportunity to thank the intervention team and the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) for a job well done in turning the province around.

THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION.

We are continuing to fight the spectre of corruption in our midst. Corruption which in this case refers to abuse of office for personal material gain such as a dishonesty of offering and/or accepting bribes for performance of some function. This is an area where we must redouble our efforts in fighting this scourge including all other acts of dishonesty such as bribery, fraud, tender-rigging, nepotism, patronage, money laundering and embezzlement. This includes tightening the supply chain management processes and dealing with any conflict of interest whether perceived, potential or real. Working with the law enforcement agencies we will tighten the noose around all those involved in such nefarious activities in the public service.

Throughout the provincial administration, several officials have been arrested and tried for corruption related crimes of fraud, tender-rigging and other misdemeanors. We vow to redouble our efforts in this regard so that we can uproot similar rotten apples that contaminate our public service. Working together we must prove that crime does not pay.

SUPPORT TO MUNICIPALITIES.

In the course of this financial year we want to enhance the support that we give to the local sphere of government in our province. Sec 154(1) of the





Constitution stipulates that, "The national government and provincial government, by legislative and other measures must support and strengthen the capacity of municipalities to manage their own affairs, to exercise their powers and to perform their functions". We will perform our duties in this regard as also contemplated by the MFMA No 56 of 2003. We will strengthen our municipal support system to be able to better monitor and assist municipalities in our province.

We support the "Back to Basics" approach of the Ministry of CoGHTA, which aims amongst others to improve service delivery and infrastructure development, and to improving governance and public participation. We will together build a responsive, caring and accountable local government. We will work together with the local sphere of government to serve our communities better.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIMPOPO DEVELOPMENT PLAN - 2015 – 2019.

As reported by Premier during the State of the Province Address, the Executive Council has adopted a Limpopo Development Plan. The budget we are proposing today seeks to respond to the challenges raised by the Plan and we strive to meet its objectives. It will help us to reduce inequality, eliminate poverty and improve the quality of life our people. This budget will help us achieve the targets we set ourselves to reach by year 2020.

THE RE-CONFIGURATION OF PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS.

The Premier of our province last year reconfigured the provincial departments to better respond to the challenges facing our province. The reconfiguration in the department of social development; public works, roads and infrastructure; transport, safety, security and liaison has succeeded well. Those departments are up and running. This budget has been done in line with those reconfigurations. We are confident that the reconfigured departments will help the provincial government to respond better to service delivery demands of the people in the province.

PROVINCIAL OWN REVENUE GENERATION.

Honourable Speaker, enhanced generation of our own revenue is going to cushion us as a province from the budget reductions in the MTEF. The provincial government has adopted a Revenue Enhancement Strategy. The successful implementation of the strategy will improve the provincial revenue collection. The own provincial revenue is generated from patient fees, motor vehicle licenses, traffic fines and gaming fees. Provincial Treasury will continue to provide support and monitoring of departments and public entities in revenue generation endeavours.

Provincial own revenue has been growing substantially over the years. We budget to collect own revenue of R976 million in 2015/16. We are looking at reaching the R1 billion marks by the year 2016/17.

THE PROVINCIAL ALLOCATION IS R52, 728 BILLION.

The total budget for the Province is R52, 728 billion in the financial year 2015/16. This is a 4, 2. % increase from the 2014/15 original budget of R50, 954 billion. It further increases by 6.2 per cent to R55.996 billion in 2016/17 and R59.004 billion or 5.4 % in 2017/18. The provincial equitable share allocation has been revised down by R311.6 million and R467, 4 million in the 2015/16 and the 2016/17 financial years respectively. This is consequent to the census results of 2011 which indicated a reduction in the population of the province. The Provincial equitable share is further reduced due to function shift of Further Education and Training (FET) Colleges from the Provincial Department of Education to the National Department of Higher Education, and of Port health services and National Laboratory services from the Provincial Department of Health to the National Department of Health.

The R52, 728 billion for 2015/16 is composed of R45, 377 billion equitable share, R 6,742 billion conditional grants and R976 million of own revenue. We have allocated R40, 038 billion to education and health, R5.032 billion to fund infrastructure in roads, human settlements, schools, health institutions, bridges and libraries and R4.522 billion towards economic development of the province.

We are confident that this budget will help us to achieve the eight priorities of the ruling party, the African National Congress in-

- Improving and expanding education and training, Health and Social Security, Fighting Crime and Corruption, Rural development, land reform and agrarian reform and food security, Human Settlements and basic services, Social cohesion and nation building, Job creation and Sustainable livelihoods, and Building a developmental state.

We are confident that working together with our people we will continue to build a better life for everyone through these apex priorities.



BREAKDOWN OF 2015/16 MTEF ALLOCATION TO CLUSTERS IS R 52 728 BILLIONS

The total Provincial 2015/16 MTEF budget allocations per cluster is as follows:-

- Governance and Administration cluster receives R1 billion.
- Economic cluster receives R7, 446 billion.
- Social cluster receives R44, 282 billion.

THE 2015/16 FINANCIAL YEAR ALLOCATION TO DEPARTMENTS.

All the 13 votes receive their respective shares from the Provincial envelope. A number of determinant factors were considered in arriving at these allocations; inclusive of various mandates; government priorities outlined above; the LDP objectives; pressing community needs and the availability of resources. The budget is inclusive of conditional grants. The MEC's will in their budget speeches detail the programmes and projects to be implemented by the Departments.

VOTE 1: OFFICE OF THE PREMIER.

OTP provides strategic direction on policies and programme to the entire Provincial Administration. It plays a critical oversight role through coordination and management of the performance of the Provincial Administration. It also ensures good governance, integrated planning and sustainable development within the Provincial Administration. To execute this significant function the OTP receives R352, 2 million of which R132, 6 million is for Administration; R136, 4 million goes to Institutional Development for improving service delivery, whilst R83, 2 million goes to Policy and Governance.



VOTE 2: LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

The Provincial Legislature is responsible for oversight; law making and public participation. It has a Constitutional responsibility to exercise oversight over the Executive arm of the State; to provide financial and administrative support to political parties represented in the House and to provide effective administrative management and support to MPL's. To carry out these Constitutional obligations the Legislature receives R262,7 million of which R85,1 million is for Administration; R63,3 million is for Facilities for Members and Political Parties and R114,3 million for Parliamentary Services.

VOTE 3: EDUCATION

The Department of education receives the biggest portion of the entire budget, a whopping 48 %. It receives an amount of R 25, 285 billion of which R1, 522 billion goes to Administration, R2, 928 billion is for Public Ordinary Schools Education R118,5 million is for Independent Schools Subsidies, R404,6 million goes to Public Special School Education, R164,8 million for Early Childhood Development, R805, million for Infrastructure Development and R341.6 million for Examination and Education Related Services. The allocations include conditional grants such as Primary School Nutritional Programme, Education, Infrastructure grants; Maths, Science and Technology grant and EPWP Incentive Grant.

VOTE 4: AGRICULTURE.

The Department plays an important role in food security; poverty alleviation; job creation; rural development; economic growth and the creation of sustainable livelihoods. Amongst others the budget caters for food security through Fetsa Tlala Programme; revitalization of irrigation scheme; construction of pack houses as well as refurbishment of the newly opened Agricultural Colleges-Tompi Seleka and Madzivhandila. In order to implement these the Department of Agriculture is allocated R1, 697 billion of which R322,3 million is for Administration, R93,1 million to facilitate agriculture infrastructure development and maintenance, R1,049 billion goes towards Farmer Support and Development, R47,2 million to provide for Veterinary Services, R57,6 million is for Technology Research and Development Services, R24, 6 million for Agricultural Economics, R97, 3million for Structured Agricultural Training and R6,1 million for Rural Development Coordination.

VOTE 5: PROVINCIAL TREASURY.

The LPT is established in terms of Legislation specifically Sec 17 of the PFMA. Sec 18 of the PFMA gives it its powers and functions. LPT continues to manage the Provincial budget by guiding budget processes and monitoring its implementation by Provincial Departments and entities. Key to this is the management of Provincial own revenue enhancement initiatives that is necessary to augment the equitable share allocations from National government.

It receives R385, 2 million, of which R160, 2 million is for Administration, R62, 3 million is for Sustainable Resource to Management provide for professional advice and support to local govern-



ment, economic analysis, fiscal policy, public finance management, R79, 4 is for Assets and Liability Management to monitor and support government assets, liabilities and supply chain management in provincial departments and municipalities and R83, 2 million goes towards Financial Governance. These allocations will also cater for such priorities as capacitation of the Municipal Finance Management Unit, continuous implementation of LOGIS system and the recruitment of financial skilled personnel in CFO offices.

VOTE 6: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

LEDET is at the centre of the Province's task for job creation, economic development, tourism promotion and environmental management. It receives R1,161 billion of which R304,3 million is for Ad-



ministration, R440,7 million for Economic Development to stimulate economic growth through industry development, trade and investment promotion, R241,8 million is for Environmental Affairs to ensure the development, promotion and management of environmental activities and R174 million goes towards tourism development, promotion.

The allocation includes transfer to public entities Limpopo Economic Development Agency, Limpopo Gambling Board, Limpopo Tourism Agency and their subsidiaries. Funds are also made available for refurbishment of nature reserves, building of market stalls as well as the implementation of broad band for the Province.

VOTE 7: HEALTH

The Department of Health's role and responsibility is to deliver quality; accessible and affordable health care to the people. In order to carry out this mandate it gets the second biggest part of the Provincial budget after the DoE. The Department receives R14, 754 billion of which R265, 6 million goes to Administration; R9,461 billion goes to District Health Services; R586,6 million goes to EMS, R2, 094 billion is for Provincial Hospital Services; R 1, 356 billion for Central Hospital Services, Health Sciences and Training gets R568,5 million, Health Care Support Services and Health Facilities Management receives R97, 8 million and R324,6 million respectively.

The allocation also focuses on the provision of quality health care through supply of medicines and medical equipment supplies, continuous stabilization of security, fleet management and emergency services; as well as an additional allocation for the Cuban Doctors Programme and Limpopo Medical School. We have also provided additional funding for revenue enhancement strategy to improve the PHIS.

VOTE 8: TRANSPORT

This Department develops, co-ordinates; implements; manages and maintains an integrated and sustainable multimodal transport system and appropriates infrastructure. It goes without saying that the provision and maintenance of reliable transport infrastructure is critical to economic growth of the Province. To carry out that mammoth task the Department receives R1, 839 billion of which R495, 7 million goes to Administration, R823,3 million for Transport Operations and R519,9 million for Transport Regulations. The allocation includes transfer to the Public entity Gateway Airport Authority Limpopo (GAAL).

VOTE 9: PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

The core functions of Public works, Roads and Infra-

structure includes to co-ordinate and facilitates the Expanded Public Works Programme, planning and construction of roads and bridges and the planning and delivery of Provincial Infrastructure. To implement these, the Department receives R2, 750 billion of which R301,7 million is for Administration; R647,6 million goes to Infrastructure Operations, R38,1 million is for community based programme and R1, 762 billion goes towards improving roads infrastructure in the Province. This includes finishing what the Premier refers to as "Bemuda roads"; which are those roads that were left half way and unfinished in the past. The allocation includes a transfer to Road Agency Limpopo (RAL) and money for maintenance and rehabilitation of government buildings.

VOTE 10: SAFETY, SECURITY AND LIAISON.

Limpopo is the safest Province in the RSA, thanks to the work of the police, the Department of Safety, Security and Liaison working together with our communities. It receives R90,3 million of which R44,4 million goes to Administration;R28,3 million is for Civil Oversight to oversee the effectiveness and efficiency of Police service delivery and to assess the effectiveness of visible policing, and R17,7 million goes towards Crime Prevention and Community Police Relations through the developments and implementation of integrated social crime prevention interventions for safer communities.

VOTE 11: COGHSTA

COGHSTA is at the centre of delivery of services to our people. It is charged with the responsibility to monitor and support municipalities and traditional councils to ensure the provision of human settlements and to oversee the delivery of basic services such as water, electricity and sanitation to the people. To implement this mandate the Department receives R2, 269 billion; of which R286, 7 million is for Administration; R1, 385 billion is for Human Settlements; R248, 7 million is for Cooperative Governance and R349, 2 million for Traditional Institutional Development.

VOTE 12: SOCIAL DEVELOPEMNT

The work of Social Development is critical to building sustainable and stable communities. To achieve this important objective the Department receives R1, 538 billion composed of R295,7 million for Administration; R223,1 million is for Social Welfare Service, R654 million for Children and Families, R207 million is for Restorative Services and R158 million for Development and Research.



VOTE 13: SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE.

DSAC plays a pivotal role in enhancing unity in diversity through such services for sustainable development of sport, arts, culture and heritage. It is at the centre of our national unity and nation building initiatives. To achieve these the DSAC receives R345,3 million of which R104 million is for Administration; R33,7 million is for Cultural Affairs; R127,3 million is for Library and Information Services and R80,4 million is for Sport and Recreation.

R5, 032 BILLION IS AN ALLOCATION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.

An amount of R5, 032 billion has been allocated for infrastructure development across all Departments in 2015/16 financial year as listed below:

- Department of Education – R805.1 million.
- Department of Health- R324.6 million.
- Department of Transport- R89.3 million.
- Department of LEDET- R62.7 million.
- Department of COGHSTA- R1.286 billion.
- Department of Public works, Roads and Infrastructure- R2.171 billion.
- Department of Agriculture- R185.9 million.
- Department of Sport, Arts and Culture- R43 million.



- Department of Social Development – R63.9 million.

MEC KGOLANE PHALA THANKED KEY ROLE PLAYERS

- o The Honourable Premier of our Province Chupu Stanley Mathabatha for his tireless support, motivation and for providing leadership to the work.
- o Members of the Executive Council, for the spirit of close cooperation, unity, commitment and collegiality in serving the people of the Province.
 - o Honourable MPL's particularly the Portfolio Committee on Provincial Treasury Chairperson, Honourable Molapi Soviet Lekganyane for the hawk-like insight and vigilant oversight.
 - o HOD's of all Departments for the cooperation and dedication to service.
 - o His deepest gratitude goes to the HOD of LPT Mr. Gavin Pratt and his Executive Management for the tireless and outstanding commitment to the work.
 - o He also thanked the SGM's Motlhanke Phukuntsi; Beauty Mutheiwane and Harry Petrie for their commitment and support.
 - o All staff members of the LPT, the Team Treasury in the Province for the support.
- o Thank you very much everyone for contributing to

“WE ARE SATISFIED WITH WHAT YOU ARE DOING”



HOD Gavin Pratt, SGM Motlhanke Phukuntsi and the Chief of Operations Patricia Raphesu in the meeting with the portfolio committee

The Limpopo Provincial Legislature Portfolio Committee Chairperson Honourable Soviet Lekganyane said that he was satisfied with what Limpopo Provincial Treasury was doing. He said this during the briefing meeting between the Portfolio Committee for Provincial Treasury and the department at the Parliamentary village on Thursday.

The Portfolio Committees of Legislature have a Constitutional responsibility to exercise oversight over the Executive arm of the State and from time to time departments are invited to answer questions on anything that concerns their constitutional mandate. The department was invited to answer Portfolio Committee questions on the 2014/15 third performance report and 2015 Limpopo Appropriation Bill. On the ICT projects and the current position.

The head of department Mr. Gavin Pratt told the committee that approval to implement VPN was granted in the fourth quarter and SITA was busy with the provincial VPN blueprint for the implementation of the provincial departments VPN, including Provincial Treasury as a pilot.

“The Backup Solution project has been deferred to the first quarter of the next financial year due to

challenges experienced during the adjudication of the bid proposals as the service providers were non-responsive to the bid's requirements”

The committee wanted to know why LOGIS was dragging since the beginning of the financial year. Pratt who was the leader of the LPT delegation said that LOGIS project was identified as an intervention project to deal with challenges that are experienced in the management of procurement, asset and inventory in departments. As an intervention project, departments that were targeted were those that were under administration. At the start of the project, an implementation team was appointed that comprised of Provincial Treasury, Education and Health officials. These were the departments that were targeted to be implemented first.



HOD Pratt with his delegation



Budget Day in Pictures



STRETCH YOUR LIPS

10 FUN FACTS

1. You can't wash your eyes with soap.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose, with your tongue out.
4. You just tried no. 3
6. When you did no. 3 you realised it's possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You're smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped no. 5
9. You just checked to see if there is a no. 5
10. Share this with your friends to have some fun too!

Someone asked an old man: "After 70 years you still call your wife Darling, Honey and Luv. What is the secret?" ...Old man: I forgot her name 10 years ago and I'm scared to ask her.



Did you know?

Did you know?

South Africa's financial services sector, backed by a sound regulatory and legal framework, is sophisticated, boasting dozens of domestic and foreign institutions providing a full range of services – commercial, retail and merchant banking, mortgage lending, insurance and investment.

Did you know?

The South African banking system is well developed and effectively regulated, comprising a central bank – the South African Reserve Bank – as well as a few large, financially strong banks and investment institutions, and a number of smaller banks.

Did you know?

Many foreign banks and investment institutions have operations in South Africa. Investment and merchant banking remains the most competitive front in the industry, while the country's "big five" banks – Absa, FNB, Standard Bank, Nedbank and newcomer Capitec – dominate the retail market.

Did you know?

Legislation governing the financial sector is primarily the Banks Act 1990 and the Mutual Banks Act 1993, which serve the achievement of a sound, efficient banking system in the interest of the depositors of banks and the economy as a whole.

Did you know?

An office headed by the Registrar of Banks, operating as part of the Reserve Bank, is responsible for registering institutions as banks or mutual banks as well as enforcing all the requirements of the Acts.

House Keeping

GOVERNMENT REACTS TO THE SHAMEFUL AND DISGUSTING CONDUCT OF CERTAIN ELECTED PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

The Government of the Republic of South Africa is disappointed and disgusted at the despicable conduct of some elected public representatives who are hell-bent in holding this democratic institution, the electorates and the country at ransom.

Government condemns the unruly and un-parliamentary conduct of some Members of Parliament whose intention is to render this respectable institution ungovernable. The events that unfolded in Parliament were aimed at bringing our hard earned democracy into disrepute.

This democracy we enjoy today came with enormous sacrifice, bloodshed and loss of lives. People of this country died for this democracy for these members to be elected to be public representatives. Their actions dishonour the lives of those who paid the ultimate price.

The President, as the Head of State convened the joint seating in line with the constitution to an extraordinary sitting to deliver the State of the Nation Address. Therefore, the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) is a solemn occasion which should be respected.

The President called in all levers of state, the executive, judiciary and a legislature, to address the nation and not the respond to questions or for any other business.

The President also called for public inputs into the State of the Nation Address, therefore the people of South Africa should be disappointed and outraged that they were denied the opportunity to hear the President respond in a climate of dignity.

The unruly behaviour of some Members of Parliament, as elected public representatives should be condemned with the strongest possible action and our people should disassociate themselves with this despicable action.

Government is flabbergasted at the shameful conduct of those who claim to be representing the needs and aspirations of the electorates. Sadly, those who voted for them are being robbed of their needs and aspirations they expressed through the ballot box.

It is disappointing that elected public representatives can behave in such disgusting and despicable manner. Such behaviour and conduct cannot be tolerated and we urge Parliament to apply the rules and take stern action against these members. South Africa is a constitutional democracy and cannot allow such embarrassing scenes to go unpunished.

VISION

Excellence in Public Resource Management for Socio-Economic development

MISSION

Empowering Provincial and Local Government for sustainable service delivery through good governance and sound public resource management

"We are the best in what we do"