

Top award for Comrade Ntombi Mekgwe



Comrade Ntombi Mekgwe (right) receiving the award from Prof. Phutsisi the Principal of Motheo TVET College which Sponsored the category of Top Gender Empowered Public Sector Leader.

The African National Congress in Gauteng has congratulated Comrade Ntombi Mekgwe for emerging as a winner in the Standard Bank Top Women Awards under the Top Gender Empowered Public Sector Leader category.

The award is viewed as an affirmation of the quality and depth of women leaders within the ANC in Gauteng who continue to serve tirelessly in various capacities across many fields, whether it be public or private sector, academia, business, etc.

Held annually the awards recognise those who have played an active role in changing the role of women across sectors. It is one of South Africa's most prestigious gender-empowerment events.

Mekgwe, who received her accolade at a ceremony held in Emperors Palace on Thursday, 15 August, is currently the Speaker of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature and serves as a member of the ANC Gauteng Province's Provincial Executive Committee and the Provincial Working Committee.

Armed with a wealth of experience in the public sector, comrade Ntombi is a seasoned activist who has close to 40 years-experience serving in various structures of our movement during the difficult period of apartheid and in democratic South Africa. She is an ardent advocate of women's rights who is always fighting for the empowerment of women across sectors of society.



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Mama WINNIE MANDELA honoured by UNISA



The honouring of Mama Winnie Madikizela-Mandela through the renaming of one of the three University of South Africa buildings after her is a befitting tribute to remember the legacy of an outstanding patriot and freedom fighter.

The building will keep the memory of Mama Winnie alive and ensure that her selfless struggle and outstanding leadership continues to exist in the memory and imagination of generations of scholars in years to come.

Mama Winnie was honoured alongside two other outstanding revolutionary South Africans, Anton Lembede and academic Professor Simon Radipere who also had buildings named after them.

The ANC Caucus in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature has welcomed the move by Unisa as a historically significant step which is part of the transformation agenda.



"We are also convinced that it was appropriate that a building at a university with a long history of student and youth activism be named after the struggle icon and founding President of ANC Youth League Cde Anton Mziwakhe Lembede, this will serve as a reminder of the role played by the youth in shaping public discourse through intellectual development. This also serves as an honour to the ANC Youth League and the role it has played in Mobilising South African Youth against the brutal apartheid system.

"Professor Radipere epitomizes black excellence in the academia. A diligent professional who understood that education is meant to help in finding solutions to the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment," said the ANC Caucus.

Gratuitous displaying of apartheid flag declared hate speech



The ANC Caucus in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature has welcomed the judgment by the Equality Court which declared the gratuitous display of the racist apartheid flag as hate speech. The judgement exposed a continued attempt by those still stuck in the past to masquerade cultural heritage as a way to conceal racial supremacy.

Continuous displays of racist symbols and instruments is an indignity to South Africans and it undermines the imperatives of nation building and social cohesion.

This judgement should serve as a deterrent to a small band of racists who continuously seek to divide our people along racial lines under the pretext of cultural heritage. All South Africans black and white should recommit themselves to exorcising the demon of racism and build a society that was envisioned by Nelson Mandela.

Working together with all racial groups in our country we must intensify our commitment to building a non-racist, none- sexist, united and prosperous South Africa.

ANC membership submission and renewals underway

The ANC Gauteng Province has embarked on a process to update its membership database.

Members of the party across the province are called upon to submit their membership forms to their branches by not later than August 31. This also applies to comrades who wishes to renew their membership.

The Diagnostic Report presented at the 5th Policy Conference and endorsed by the 54th National Conference identified amongst other challenges practices like gate-keeping and buying of membership which have adversely affected the the integrity of our organisational processes.

Subsequently the ANC's 54th National Conference resolved there is an urgent need to implement "a modernized, technologically-enabled membership system that will speed up the delivery of membership cards, allow for electronic membership renewal and discourage gatekeeping.

The membership list should be on the cloud and available to any executive member".

The current process by the ANC to resolve the identified challenges requires compliance with various systems put in place by the national office and will take the following form:

Members are to submit their forms by no later that 31st August 2019 to their respective branches. This includes those members wishing to renew their membership.

The BEC will then forward the received forms within five days (by 5th September 2019) to their respective Regional Offices or to the Provincial Office.

The province will then publish a consolidated list (full names and ward) of members that have submitted their forms.

Members who have made their submissions but do not appear on the published list will be able to take further steps to verify their membership status.

Enquiries can be made with the Provincial Membership Officer Comrade Madibe Ramogwadi on 011 227 9300 or ramogwadim@gmail.com.

Transforming the education landscape one school at a time



The ANC-led government in Gauteng has committed itself to changing the education landscape in the province by ensuring that learners are equipped with the skills that match the developmental priorities of our economy through Schools of Specialisation.

These schools target talented learners to attend a school focusing on one of the following five disciplines:

- Maths, Science and ICT
- Commerce and Entrepreneurship
- Engineering
- Performing and Creative Art and
- Sports

On Tuesday (20 August) the Gauteng MEC for Education and Youth Development, Comrade Panyaza Lesufi, launched yet

another such institution, the Katlehong Engineering School of Specialisation with a focus on: Manufacturing, Transport & Logistics.

Already over the past three years about eight Schools of Specialisation were launched: Curtis Nkondo-Maths, Science and ICT, Engineering and Entrepreneurship; Magaliesburg-Science and ICT (Agriculture); Phelindaba and Edward Phatudi-Maths, Science and ICT (Nuclear Science and Technology); Mohloli-Maths, Science and ICT (Maritime); Soshanguve-Engineering (Automotive); Kwa-Thema Skills-Technical Occupation (Maths, Technical, Creative Arts, Services and CAT); Pace Secondary-Commerce and Entrepreneurship. By the end of 2022 35 Schools of Specialisation would have been launched in Gauteng.

The Katlehong school is situated in the Eastern Economic Development corridor, where the major industries are Transport, Manufacturing and Logistics. In this corridor, for example, Nigel is where trains are manufactured.

Government's partnership with the private sector has been fundamental in providing learners with workplace experience, learnerships, artisanships and entrepreneurial skills. The school has partnered with the following entities: MerSeta, Samsung Electronics, Hatfield VW and Ford Group, Komatsu Mining, Austrian Education Department and Tshwane IDC.

MerSeta (Manufacturing, engineering and related services SETA) will assist learners from Katlehong Engineering School of Specialisation who will pass

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Mathematics/ Tech Maths and Physical Science, to be trained as qualified motor technicians at Ford, VW, Audi, Toyota and Mazda. They will also be assisting the school in funding and upgrading the workshops to enable the school to be accredited as a formal training centre in future.

The school has 17 apprentices. These are former learners and youth who are in an apprenticeship programme. They do their theory at the school and are then placed in various automotive industries to do the practical component.

Samsung Electronics will continue to take Grade 10-12 learners doing electrical technology to their academy in Midrand for additional training on weekly basis. Learners will be exposed to the latest technology in electronics.

Schools of specialisation and their specialty are spread across Gauteng Province's 5 Economic Development Corridors:

Northern Corridor: Automotive, Research, Innovation (Knowledge-based), Nuclear Science & Technology

Eastern Corridor: Manufacturing, Transport (aeronautics), logistics

Central Corridor: Financial Services, Hospitality, Pharmaceuticals

Western Corridor: Agro-processing, Tourism, Archaeology, Logistics

Southern Corridor: Tourism & Entertainment, Agro-processing, Logistics, Hydro-industries

School principals not left behind in 4IR

The ANC-led government is taking steps to ensure that the modernisation of classrooms is carried over to the management of our schools.

promote the digitalisation of school management in the province. Technology has helped school principals to remain in close contact with the department for speedy resolution of problems.

Principals across the province have been equipped with upgraded reporting devices that support the administrative processes underpinning e-platforms and remains a focal point of communication between Principals, Districts and Head Office

"Many of our schools lack basic communication infrastructure, such as telephones. Today, we can confidently say that we are well on our way to overcoming this challenge, in partnership with Vodacom," said MEC Panyaza Lesufi.

In a partnership between the Gauteng Education and Youth Development (GDE) and Vodacom 2 200 Samsung Galaxy A30 devices were recently handed over to Principals. The gadgets replace the reporting devices that were launched in 2014 when both mobile device and a tablet were issued. This single device will yield the same result, with benefits of substantial cost savings.

"Vodacom's partnership with the Gauteng Department of Education continues to promote the digitalisation of school management as we work together to create an environment that is ultimately conducive for learning.

This long-term partnership between GDE and Vodacom continues to

Our partnership with the GDE aligns with the South African government's prioritisation of digital solutions to improve efficiency across all departments," said Rudi Matjokana, Managing Executive for Public Enterprise at Vodacom Business Group.

Mayor in support as young riders make their mark



MOGALE CITY:

Boys and girls aged five to 12 recently battled it out in the Motocross Kids Enduro Race competition held at the Dirt Bronco Raceway in Krugersdorp.

Under the supervision of world class referees, the junior riders made their way to the muddy tracks in six categories i.e. MX 4, 5B, 6A to the 1A, 1B and 1C. The character displayed by the youngsters throughout the six-hours of drill, sharp navigating, gentle turns as well as high and low jumps showed that these future champions are not only highly skilled but also work hard in training.

Mogale City Executive Mayor Comrade Patrick Lipudi attended the competition and was thrilled by the atmosphere, character and endurance displayed by the youngsters. "I'm impressed by

how these young boys and girls navigate the race track without fear. I'm also fascinated at how they remained strong and focused throughout the race showing that their trainers are doing a splendid job".

The Executive Mayor also committed to being part of Dirt Bronco's future events. "We want to commit ourselves as a municipality to partner with Dirt Bronco for future events whilst providing the necessary support to unearth talent among our local young boys and girls. I will be happy if the sport can extend to our townships and later produce riders of international stature coming from all corners of our city," he added.

For their boldness, nerve-wrecking stamina and achievement on the day, the young riders were awarded medals for their efforts.

New Olifantsfontein Fire Station to improve emergency response time



EKURHULENI REGION:

The community of Olifantsfontein, Clayville and Winnie Mandela will soon have a bigger and more resourced fire station to attend to their emergencies.

Areas that are served by the old fire station have grown substantially over the years with new developments including areas such as Winnie Mandela, Tswelopele and Clayville. This has affected the response time, and the more capacitated fire station will reduce the response time to be in line with the international benchmark.

There will be five bays to house five fire trucks and three ambulances, and a shift comprising of 11 officials. The

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old fire station had bays for only two fire trucks and three ambulances. A helipad will also be constructed for emergency incidents that may need the service.

Construction is already 54% complete, and 36 local labourers are employed, as well as 12 subcontractors with their own labour.

The City has committed to build two fire stations every three years to reduce the response time to emergency situations. A sod-turning ceremony was held in April 2019 for the new Klopper Fire Station, which will serve Elandsfontein, Isando and Jet Park, among other areas.

Ekurhuleni recently added two highly advanced tankers, one capable of carrying fire extinguishing foam for fires caused by flammable liquids.

"We are ramping up our emergency services capacity to live up to our vision of being a developmental city that provides people-centred services, and creates a safer environment for our residents," MMC for Community Safety Cllr Frans Mmoko said.

Ekurhuleni Youth in Fashion Get Finance and Mentorship Boost



The ANC-led Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, through its Youth Directorate, has partnered with THUD and other stakeholders like National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) to support businesses of young people in Ekurhuleni.

As a result five fashion entrepreneurs recently won a business incubation prize worth more than R100 000 during The Hook Up Dinner Ekurhuleni (THUDEkurhuleni) held in Germiston Lake.

During the THUDEkurhuleni, the City and its stakeholders pledged financial support as well as non-financial support to young entrepreneurs.

Network sessions take place monthly where young people pitch their ideas to experts and their peers. They are given advice on how to improve and grow their business. Each month a different theme is chosen, with August being the fashion sector.

"THUDEkurhuleni gives young

people in business a chance to network with their peers, experts, potential funders and customers. These sessions give young people access to the market, especially in the SMMES sector," explained Divisional Head of the City's Youth Directorate Adv Modise Koetle.

David Tlale, one of the fashion heavyweights in the country, urged participants to master the basics, identify their skills and refine them.

Obed Letsoho from NYDA announced that his organisation will give five entrepreneurs who pitched on the day four vouchers for services such as business plans, marketing strategies and other essential services they need to grow their businesses. He added that NYDA will be giving mentoring services to these fashion entrepreneurs.

Letsoho said young people of Ekurhuleni can access the services of NYDA by logging on to www.nyda.gov.za or visit their offices at 50 Church Street, old Boksburg Magistrate Court. They can be reached on 0800 52 52 52.

25 years of democracy – Hope is alive



The country is faced with challenges of unemployment, lack of access to education and economic opportunities, lack of access to the market for entrepreneurs, and a subsequent lack of civic participation. High rates of unemployment among youth make it increasingly difficult for them to make a smooth transition from “youth” into “adulthood”, a social transition that comes with the expectation that they need to become autonomous, independent and contributing members of society.

Despite the above, there is Hope and I know that the challenges we are facing are giving us an opportunity to persevere, commit and find ways to come up with solutions.

I am hopeful that we are more than conquerors as a country, our history bears testimony to our resilience and agility towards defiance.

25 years of Democracy according to me means a year to multiply our efforts towards achieving a non-racial, non-sexiest and a free and fair democratic

South Africa to all, with commitment to political and ideological tolerance, and the fight against inequality, Poverty and unemployment.

Unemployment and poverty in SA disproportionately affect black women in particular thus the need for the ANC-led government to introduce gender budgeting in order to use its spending capacity to drive women empowerment.

Statistics released by Statistics South Africa in 2017, confirmed that 51% of our population are women, however, this percentage is not reflecting in influential public sector and private sector's Executive positions because women are heavily underrepresented and are not in decision-making positions. This inequality in decision-making positions is illegal and unconstitutional.

The Women Empowerment and Gender Equality Bill in particular calls for 50% representativity in decision-making positions. Women must participate in every sector of public life, including in all SoE Boards as Chairpersons, as Chief Executives of SoE's, Directors General and Senior management, Head of Departments, Chief of Staff and Advisors.

In these 25 years of democracy we must implement strategies that will drive equality in our country right now. Before the arrival of democracy in South Africa in 1994, there was a mere 2.7% representation of women in parliament; since then, though,

things have changed. However, we need to do more we need to ensure that women take their rightful positions in the country's economy, engineering, science, technology, academia, media, and many more.

Regardless of all the above, if you were to ask me if I still believe in the policies of the ANC-led government, I would safely say that over the past 25 years; the ANC has ensured that its manifesto and policies covers women, children, youth, people living with disability, SMME's and LGBTIQ+ on day to day matters that have a direct impact on their day to day lives.

“The ANC is more than a political party; it is a Movement and a tangible expression of a vision. The power of the ANC lies not just in the numbers of people who vote for it, but the vision that it stands for. This has always been the Movement's strength and it is this vision that the world looks to now”, former UN Secretary - General Ban Ki-moon; South Korean politician 23 August 2011 at the UN in New York.

While SA remains a better place today for women and children, the ANC government has to be seized with the important task of dealing with scourge of femicide that has come to bedevil our country. Through the leadership of the ANCWL, the ANC must mobilize all sections of society towards eradicating femicide which is the biggest threat to women currently.

By Andiswa Mosai, Sedibeng District Municipality Speaker



Profile

Africa Mayibuye! reflections of an ANC veteran



When Comrade Sina Vacu and a friend of hers, with no understanding of politics, used to pass time in the mid 50s to attend political meetings organised by activists from Sophiatown, little did she know that over six decades later the story of her life would be interwoven in the very politics.

Comrade Vacu, who sometimes refers to herself as “youth league endala” owing to the fact that despite being 78-years-old she remains very active in the politics of the day, is one of the long-serving members of the ANC and currently serves as the Gauteng Provincial Secretary of ANC Veterans’ League.

Born in 1941, Comrade Vacu recalls that life was not easy growing up in Sophiatown during the apartheid years. “It was only a matter of time before one became politically conscious. Though we were young we found ourselves attending Congress meetings. It was very interesting. I

remember one always got excited when at the end of the meetings people attending the gatherings would raise their fists and shout “Afrika Mayibule!” This she says informally inducted her into a life of activism until she formally joined the ANC in 1965.

“One day there was a rumour that Sophiatown was going to be moved and the community was angry and embarked on a march led by Ntate Lethoba. Many people were arrested including my grandmother and the police left me and my friends alone saying that we are still young. Sophiatown was eventually moved to Meadowlands in 1955 to,” recalls Comrade Vacu.

She says that between 1955 and 1958 when women leaders fought against the use of ‘Dom Pass’, apartheid police announced a deadline that anyone, male or female, who refuses to take their passbooks, will be arrested. “This led to a rush to the Post Office as everyone wanted to make sure they get their passbooks”.

Mme Sina started working for Partex Company where she joined Industria Union Organisation. The union was always under-pressure from Special Branch Police Unit and as such moved its offices on monthly basis to avoid the

interference of police.

In 1973 Mme Sina joined NUMSA under the leadership of the late Lucy Mvubela. Due to taking part in political activities she was admitted to hospital after being affected by teargas in December of 1976. “During that period my elder son his elder son went missing while my nephew was shot with a rubber bullet. It was a difficult period. The apartheid regime always targeted the families of activists so that they would break our spirits.”

In 1979 she joined OK Bazaar in Brixton and became a member of Liaison committee for the following year. In 1982 she joined CAUSA Union where she worked with Organizer, Comrade Koji followed by Comrade Emma Mashinini, Comrade Vivian, Ntate Gomomo and J.D Naidoo who used to “encourage us to not lose hope”.

Mme Sina recalls she together with fellow activists were arrested during pickets under the state of emergency. She says it was at that time that Khotso House, the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches which housed several activist organisations was bombed at night in August of 1988.

In 1999 Mme Sina retired and joined Veterans Commission



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at Meadowlands Branch Ward 43 (Sam Ntambani) where she worked with the late Comrade Rose Mosothwana (Chairperson) and Comrade Hilda Grootboom. She was nominated as a secretary in 2002/04 and in 2005 was nominated as a Chairperson for veterans Commission. In 2006 she became the member of BEC working with the Chairperson, Cde Siphon Makama and Secretary, Cde Norman Ngwendzeni.

In November 2009 she was nominated as a Deputy Secretary of the Veterans League in Braamfontein Recreation Centre and also as PEC Member. Mrs Helen Lombard was the Secretary. Mme Sina became Gauteng Provincial Secretary in 2011.

Mme Sina says a lot of changes have taken place in South Africa since the dark days of apartheid. "Women in particular faced lot of challenges. Apart from the match against the use of 'Dom Pass', women were not allowed to own houses by the apartheid government even if a husband dies. Today the situation is different women are beginning to have more advantages but the road is still long. "



Finance Department

MEC for Finance and e-Government, Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko tabled the 2019/20 Budget Vote of Gauteng Provincial Treasury, on the 31st of July 2019 at Gauteng Legislature.

A vision and the tone of this 6th Administration has been set and they are predicated in the key focus areas of the next five years which are buttressed against jobs and infrastructure; education; skills revolution and health; integrated human settlement and land release; safety; social cohesion and food security as well as building a capable, ethical and developmental State.

The department will optimise its own revenue collection by working with revenue collecting departments to address administrative loopholes and improve efficiencies. Funding will be aligned to key priorities of government and ensure that Departments spend their budgets to deliver public services to communities in the province.

Treasury is urgently interacting with the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in the province to develop coordinated action plan and to implement Section 154 and Section 139 interventions to assist struggling municipalities.

The department has been allocated a budget of R834 million for the 2019/20 financial year.

e-Government



MEC of Finance and e-Governance, Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko, tabled the 2019/20 Budget Vote of the Gauteng Department of e-Government.

The expectation in the sixth (6th) administration is that, the Department of e-Government must work with other spheres of government to craft a common digital future.

Department has started and is miles ahead of other provinces in terms of delivery and roll out of core ICT infrastructure in government/public sites largely to at increasing access to government services.

In due course, the department will make an announcement on the required institutional arrangements for Gauteng, in respect to producing our blue print on the 4IR and advise government on key interventions and implementation suitable for our province.

Gauteng Provincial Government will dovetail all these opportunities in training, skills development, SMMEs support and new entrants to benefit women, youth, people with disabilities, black businesses and township economy.

Community Safety

MEC for Community Safety, Faith Mazibuko delivered her department's Budget Vote on 30th of July 2019 just a day away from the start of Women's Month.

- The department will involve schools in road safety initiatives including Early Childhood Development Centres and Tertiary Institutions. The Department plans to conduct pedestrian operations to reduce pedestrian fatalities.

- The department will roll-out the use of Evidentiary Blood Alcohol Testing Machine (EBAT), which can read the amount of alcohol in a person's breath and produce a print out which can be used as evidence in court for conviction.

- The department will roll-out the use of Body Cams and investigate the use of drones in congested areas, social crime prevention and traffic management.

- The department will deploy 156 Patrollers and 400 youth desk volunteers. An estimated 3 000 patrollers will assist the police during various special projects, including the festive season.

- The Department's total budget for the 2019/20 financial year amounts to R759 224 million. From this amount R1 million is for the Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) conditional grant.

Education

MEC of Education, Panyaza Lesufi presented the department's Budget Vote 2019/20 on the 31st of July 2019.

The Education Roadmap to 2024, consisting of 5 new strategic goals and 20 priorities, is the department's blueprint for Education delivery in Gauteng's 6th Administration.

Strategic Goal 1: Early Childhood Development, which will focus on Grade R universalization, and begin the preparations for the introduction of Grade RR.

Strategic Goal 2: Promote quality education across all classrooms and schools, with a focus on building foundations in the early Grades, 'defending the crown' at Grade 12, promoting a modern skills-based curriculum and the multi-certification of our learners.

Strategic Goal 3: Create safe schools, that will embody Social Cohesion, patriotism and non-violence.

Strategic Goal 4: Change the Education landscape to accelerate relevant and quality learning, through twinning and resource optimization, new school infrastructure.

Strategic Goal 5: To address the needs of Gauteng Youth through development programmes and increasing youth employability.

The Department's total budget for the 2019/20 financial year amounts to R49,2 billion. R2,4 billion or 4.9% is funded through conditional grants.

Health

MEC Dr Bandile Masuku began the delivery of the Budget Vote 2019/20 of Department of Health on the 30th July 2019 by recalling the words of President Nelson Mandela: 'Health cannot be a question of income; it is a fundamental human right'.

There is absolutely no reason why Gauteng cannot spearhead the implementation of the National Health Insurance (NHI), stated Dr Masuku.

The total budget allocation provided for this financial year is R50.8 billion with a nominal growth of 8.3 per cent. Priorities of Department of Health for the Sixth Administration are centred on:

- Implementing the NHI,
- Improving patient experience,
- Improving clinical services,
- Promoting public health education and;
- Improving governance and leadership.

In order to get facilities ready for NHI and making sure that they are OHS compliant, the current financial year will see the department investing excess of R1 billion for maintenance and refurbishment.

MEC Masuku said that, "for the next five years, we will also be mobilising all stakeholders to volunteer in the work to improve the quality of healthcare in the province. We will engage each stakeholder to volunteer their insights, skills and resources. I will lead from the front by dedicating one day per month to do voluntary clinical work across the province."

Social Development

MEC for Social Development, Thuliswa Nkabinde-Khawe tabled the her Department's 2019/20 Budget Vote as follows:

The budget for the department increased from R4.6 billion in 2018/19 to R5.5 billion in 2019/20 financial year.

The department received additional budget for absorption of Social Work graduates and filling of critical posts. Additional funds were allocated for the construction of Ratanda Shelter, Soshanguve and Tembisa Rehabilitation Centres. Development & Research received additional funds for the filling of posts and for dignity packs.

Programme 1: Administration is allocated R773, 484, 000.00, which represents an increase of 19%

Programme 2: Social Welfare Services has received an allocation of R915, 374, 000.00 which represents an increase of 13%

Programme 3: Children and Families is allocated R2, 345, 936.000.00 which represents an increase of 13%

Programme 4: Restorative Services is allocated R734, 239,000.00 which represents an increase of 30%

Programme 5: Development and Research is allocated R747, 819, 000.00 which represents an increase of 36%

Budget Votes 2019/20

Human Settlements

Gauteng MEC for Human Settlements, Urban Planning, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Lebogang Maile delivered the Gauteng Department of Human Settlements Budget Vote 2019/2020 on the 26 July 2019.

Budget Allocation is R6216 526 000. R5288 804 000 will go to the Housing Development programme. R659 810 000 will go towards Operations. R223 786 000 will go towards Housing Assets and Property Management and R44 126 000 will go towards Housing Needs, Research and Planning.

- The department have committed to develop at least 125 000 human settlements over the next five years, with 31 mega human settlements planned over the same period. Of this 31, 10 are already under construction, 11 in detailed planning with the remaining 10 at conceptual stage.
- Through Rapid Land Release programme, the department will be giving land speedily to those who want to build houses and set up enterprises for themselves.
- The department will accelerate the implementation of urban renewal projects over the next five years, with a particular focus on: Bekkersdal, Alexandra, Evaton and Winterveldt.

Cogta and Urban Planning

MEC for Human Settlements, Urban Planning, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Lebogang Maile presented the Budget Vote 2019/20 for the Gauteng Department of Cooperative Governance, Traditional Affairs and Urban Planning on the 26th of July 2019.

- There is a continued intervention in the Vaal with a task team comprising the Department of Defence, Gauteng Provincial COGTA, the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agency, the Ekurhuleni Water Care Company as well as Rand Water.
- The department wants to strengthen cooperative governance in Gauteng. It will be working with traditional leaders through a Traditional Leaders Council to adequately address traditional affairs and enhance service delivery.
- The department will be enforcing collaboration and accountability on all service delivery and socio-economic initiatives.
- The Budget Allocation for the 2019/2020 financial year is R562 282 000, inclusive of once-off additional funding of R45 million to assist with the West Rand intervention.

Roads and Transport



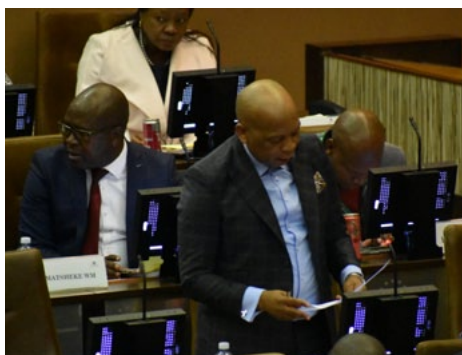
MEC for Roads and Transport, Jacob Mamabolo tabled a Budget Vote Speech of the department on the 31st of July 2019 at Gauteng Legislature.

The Budget of the Department of Roads and Transport is just over R7.7 billion for the 2019/20 financial year. The budget increases to about R8 billion in the second period of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and reduces to about R5 billion in the third year. This means that over the MTEF this budget will be about R20 billion.

He stated that, of the R7.7 billion rand allocated to the Department, R2.1 billion will be allocated to infrastructure projects. Through the construction of new assets and the maintenance of existing ones, the Department is geared to achieving its vision of a modern integrated, efficient and sustainable transport network and systems in Gauteng.

As one of the oldest transport modes in Gauteng Province, the taxi industry remains on the periphery of economic activity and this has to be corrected.

Economic Development



Dr Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, MEC for Economic Development, Agriculture and Environment, presented the Department of Economic Development's 2019/2020 medium term expenditure framework on the 30th of July 2019.

As announced in the State of the Province, the department will sponsor a detailed policy proposal and Cabinet Memoranda on the introduction of the Gauteng Township Economy Development Bill.

The department will before the end of September 2019, issue a call to market to set up a community financing instrument that is designed to provide secured lending to Black SMME's, and small-scale Manufacturing based in Townships.

Working with Sister Departments, eGovernment and Education, the department have already begun a process of synergizing its strategic approach to the development of skills for the future economy as well as internet connectivity through affordable and reliable broadband access.

Agriculture and Rural Development

Dr Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, MEC for Economic Development, Agriculture, and Environment presented the department of Agriculture and Rural Development's 2019/2020 medium term expenditure framework.

The Agro-processing facilities are to allow manufacturing in a food certified environment and the Department aims to spend R125m in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF).

The Department will commercialize 20 farmers to the tune of R88million across the grain, horticulture, poultry, piggery and red meat value chains by end of 2020.

The Department aims to complete the planning for Obert Mthombeni Agripark in Lesedi Local Municipality. In the next 5 years, the Department aims to complete 12 functional Agriparks expanding the infrastructure in them to be fully functional in a manner allowing this Agriparks to undertake the function of aggregating the produce of farmers in the vicinity as a conduit towards accessing the markets.

The Department aims to develop 5 Agro-processing facilities in the Township Hubs which will be made available to the Agro-processing Start-ups as well as the food services entrepreneurs. The Agro-processing facilities are to allow manufacturing in a food certified environment.

In the 5 years, the Department will capacitate 12 aggregator cooperatives with refrigerated trucks.

Department will support Waste Cooperatives, Recycling Facilities and Buy-back Centres with waste recycling equipment such as waste cages, forklifts, waste trailers, trolleys, baling machines, can and bottle crushers, platform scales, waste granulator machines, personal protective equipment to improve their ability to work effectively.

Infrastructure Development

MEC of Infrastructure Development and Property Management, Tasneem Motara delivered the department's 2019/20 Budget Vote on 31st of July 2019 at Gauteng Legislature.

MEC said that, Premier Makhura has committed R60 Billion over the next 5 years as an investment in infrastructure development. About 37% of this investment will be dedicated to social infrastructure, so that government practically contribute towards job creation, economic empowerment and ultimately transform the spatial landscape of this province.

The Department has been allocated a total budget of R3.46 billion for Financial Year 2019/20. EPWP is allocated R 292 million which is mainly for stipends, training and Personal Protective Equipment. Property Leases are allocated R380 million and will gradually be reducing over the next 5 years.

The following worst performing hospitals Mamelodi, Tembisa, Sebokeng, Tambo, Bheki Mlangeni and Jubilee will receive priority for refurbishment, restorative and repair work.

These projects are now at an advanced planning stage and are ready to move to implementation, with work beginning this financial year.

Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation

MEC for Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Mbali Hlophe presented the Department's 2019/20 Budget Vote on the 30th of July 2019 at Gauteng Provincial Legislature.

Programmatic allocation of this budget is as follows:

Administration has been allocated One Hundred and Fifty- One Million, Three Hundred and Twenty- One Thousand Rand; Cultural Affairs has been allocated Two Hundred, Fifty- Five Million, Five Hundred and Seventy- Five Thousand Rand;

Library and Archival Services have been allocated Three Hundred and Fifty -Three Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety Thousand Rand; and Sport and Recreation have been allocated Three Hundred and Twenty-Seven Million, Five Hundred and Thirty-Eight Thousand Rand.

"We have to do especially better in the promotion of business and sport for people with disabilities", said MEC Mbali Hlophe.



ANC Gauteng Province comrades took part in a two-day induction workshop targeting Gauteng and North West MPs and MPLs.

The workshop held in North West was facilitated by the OR Tambo School of Leadership. The school has a mandate to build agents of change who have a well-rounded worldview. The political school is an autonomous educational institution established to build the ideological, intellectual and organizational capacity of the African National Congress and the broader progressive and democratic movement.





Investing in human capital towards the NDR



Deepening political consciousness is one of the effective means of ensuring the realisation of the National Democratic Revolution and the building of a capable and efficient developmental state.

This is one of the reasons the ANC Gauteng Province is investing the development of its staff through regular Political Sessions held at the provincial office, Walter Sisulu House, facilitated by the Political Education Training Unit (PETU) Team.

The sessions are critical in helping the staff to gain a better understanding of the ANC as an organisation, where it come from, where it is at the moment and where it is going. This is to ensure that the organisation is able to build a cohort of activists who appreciates the role that the ANC continues to play as leader of society and its broad implications

when the organisation does not deliver the social contract with the electorate.

In one of the recent sessions, Professor Chris Malikane gave a presentation under the title An Overview and Location of State-Owned Entities in the Political Economy.

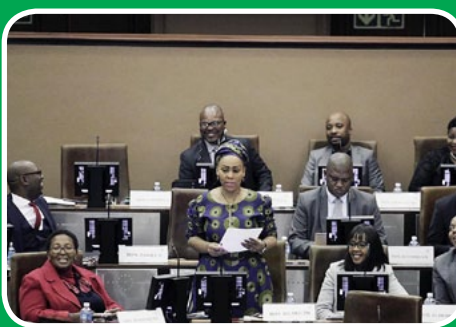
Prof Malikane reflected on the failure of state-owned entities being mostly from the fact that the primary inputs that are needed for SOEs to function are not owned by the state or neither are regulated by the state as a result prices are manipulated by the Private Sector to the detriment of national objectives. He strongly advanced an argument for structural changes in the functioning of SOEs, and its their direct shareholders.

The Political Education Training Unit is available for all Regions, Zones, and branches of the ANC

across Gauteng and will be having its weekly Political Sessions at Walter Sisulu House.



For further information on Political School do contact the the school's Administrator Comrade Lisbeth Dube on 0842772943 or Lizzy. lg172@gmail.com or the Manager Political Education Comrade Thami Ncokwane on 0660830285 or tncokwane@anc1912.org.za.



WOMEN'S MONTH 2019

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