

MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

MEDIA STATEMENT

Thursday, 27 September 2018

Attention: News Editor

THE TAKING THE LEGISLATURE TO THE PEOPLE (TLP) PROGRAMME AT DR JS MOROKA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature moved from its formal chamber to Vultures FC Sports Ground, Katjibane in Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality from the 17th to the 21st of September 2018. This was in line with the legislature's mandate of oversight, public participation and involvement. Katjibane village is one of the deep rural villages.

On the first day of TLP, the Speaker of the Mpumalanga Legislature, Ms Violet Siwela, donated 90 school shoes to needy learners at Katjibane Primary School as part of her legacy projects.

Speaker Siwela later visited Dr. Esther Mahlangu, popularly known for her love of the IsiNdebele culture and art at her home. Dr Mahlangu, who will be turning 83 in November this year told the Speaker that her greatest wish before she depart from planet earth is to see an Art School being built in her village where young people will be taught how to do cultural crafts and paintings.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Members of the Social and Economic Transformation Cluster Committees conducted oversight around municipality by physically visiting projects aimed at improving the lives of the people to check their functionality, accessibility and effectiveness.

The Social Cluster Committee visited a housing project in ward 11 and a water reservoir in Makopanong. The housing project in ward 11 was conceptualised by former Premier, Mr DD Mabuza, due to high poverty in the area. During the visit the Department of Human Settlement made a commitment to build 50 VIP toilets for the beneficiaries of the houses.

The Economic Cluster Committee visited the Mmametlhake, Vaalbank and Siyabuswa Police station to check whether these police stations are fully equipped to combat crime since the area is at the border of Gauteng, Limpopo and North West. They also visited the Agrihub project in Kameelrivier.

The Members of the Legislature also met with various stakeholders which include the youth, education, business sector and people with disabilities as well the elderly to discuss issues which affect them on a daily basis.

On Thursday, members of the public were given an opportunity to interact with MPLs, MECs and Councillors. During the public hearing,



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the Mayor of Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality, Cllr Madileng admitted that the municipality is faced with challenges such as poor road conditions, shortage of water, high unemployment rate and extreme poverty.

On Friday, Premier Refilwe Mtshweni during her closing address said that planning is underway for the roll-out of the cluster A and B sanitation projects in the form of toilets to communities to the value of R9 million for the 2018/19 financial year. She further mentioned that government is in the process of designing road infrastructure for Seabe, Siyabuswa, Ga-Phaahla, Gamorwe and Marapyane for the financial year 2018/19.

Ends.

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