

**BUDGET VOTE SPEECH FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, ROADS AND
TRANSPORT (VOTE 10) DELIVERED BY THE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL, HON. M.S MASHININI (MPL)**

Venue: Qwa-Qwa (Tsheseng-Manthatisi High School)

Date: 24 April 2018

Hon. Speaker, Hon. Deputy Speaker

Hon. Premier of the Free State Province

The Chairpersons and Free State House of Traditional Leaders (Marena)

Hon. Members of the Free State Provincial Legislature

Hon. Members of the Executive Council

Executive Mayors, Mayors, Speakers, and Councillors present

The New HOD of the Department Mr. Siphon Mtshali

Heads of Provincial Departments,

The Newly Appointed Provincial Commissioner of SAPS, LT General Sempe

Regional Commander of SANDF and Regional Commissioner of Correctional Services

Provincial Acting Director of Public Prosecutions

Regional Head of State Security Agency

Provincial Head of IPID

Members of the Community Policing Boards and Forums present

Members of the Road Safety Councils and Taxi Councils present

Members of the Business Fraternity

Representatives of all Labour Organisations,

RTMC, SANRAL, RTIA, CBRTA, RAF

Office of the Auditor-General,

Media Houses,

All our esteemed guests

Le lona baahi kaofela dumelang!!

Madam Speaker

This year marks 24 years of the demise of apartheid while at the same time we will be celebrating the birth date of our first democratically elected President of our beloved Country, Dr. Rolihlahla Nelson Mandela, who would have turned 100 years old in July, if alive.

We are in the same vein still trying to come to terms with the recent passing on of our struggle icon Winnie Madikizela-Mandela whose heroism should certainly help to intensify women emancipation agenda across the board.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank the entire Executive Management of the Department under the leadership Mr. Robinson Thekiso for steering the ship since the passing of the late Mr. Msibi, may his soul rest in peace. I further wish the newly appointed HOD and the Provincial Commissioner of SAPS the best in taking the Province forward.

Madam Speaker, it was befitting for our glorious movement, the African National Congress to dedicate this year to this iconic figure who is celebrated not only by his organization but the entire globe. It is ironic that even the opposition today uses his ideas against the very Movement he belongs to, though it used to be part of the system that used to reject and persecute him for what he and his movement stood for in the past. Central to this icon's philosophy was a commitment to the amelioration of the conditions of common men and women. He understood very well that the advent of democracy did not automatically translate into the socio-economic empowerment of the previously marginalized.

As early as 1996 Mandela challenged business to take part in addressing the apartheid ills when he told parliament that "a shared vision between business and government was key to creating the socio-economic development the country needed". The introduction of the Reconstruction and Development Programme in 1994 meant an implementation of a socio economic policy framework aimed at addressing the immense socio-economic problems brought about by apartheid, setting its sight on alleviation of poverty and addressing shortfalls in social services across the country. The fact that since the introduction of GEAR in 1994; there still exists the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality; as a reminder that, it is not yet "Uhuru", therefore "Aluta Continua", which necessitates the acceleration of socio-economic development, hence the Radical Economic Transformation. This implies that radical economic transformation takes root from the RDP and Mandela would be remembered for having set the scene in this regard. We therefore join the Movement in celebrating this icon and appreciating the work that he and his movement has done for this country and we therefore commit to pick up from where he has left.

Government's determination to leverage investment in infrastructure as a deliberate instrument to reverse the scourge of unemployment as well as the real challenges of poverty and inequality is noticeable in the performance of the Department of Police, Roads and Transport.

We have repeatedly pronounced; as we acknowledge; that the success in reversing the historic socio- economic ills and imbalances are dependent on a stable and

peaceful environment. This contention, demonstrates that socio-economic development, safety and security matters are intertwined.

The responsibility of contributing towards infrastructure development through roads construction and the coordination of safety and security matters, is a demonstration of the enormous task that is bestowed upon the Department.

Madam Speaker, allow me to give an account of the Department's performance with regard to its mandate as outlined above and also map out the Department's plan on delivering on Government's commitments as pronounced in both the State of the Nation and the State of the Province Addresses.

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Madam Speaker, in our previous budget vote speech we noted a number of challenges around South Africa's road network and consequent impact of these on road safety. Equally, we also pointed out the importance and the benefits of paying attention to the development of transport infrastructure; amongst which were; economic access meant for poverty alleviation, redress of socio economic exclusion caused by Apartheid, as well as broadened mobility and safety on the road. The significant role played by the Department in this regard cannot be overemphasized.

This year has been declared the year of renewal, unity and job creation by the ruling party. The Provincial Government calls upon everyone, irrespective of political affiliation, to heed the declaration and ensure that it is realized. The declaration must transcend beyond government structures as it is in the best interest of the entire Nation. In response to the call, the Department intends to enhance service delivery in the transport infrastructure with the view to contribute significantly towards job creation.

It is a fact that the Provincial road network is not ideal, as the largest part of the network is gravel and only a quarter is paved. The Provincial Government strives to turn the situation around by focusing on construction with the aim of ensuring that the larger part of the network is paved, however, the financial reality is an impediment to this ideal. Maintenance is equally important in ensuring that the existing paved network does not deteriorate, resulting in further increase of gravel road and reversing progress that is being made through construction.

Last year, the department committed to embark on the construction and maintenance of identified critical routes in the Province. We also highlighted that this was done to not only provide safe quality roads but also to address issues such as youth unemployment, poverty alleviation and development of local SMMEs. **Re rata ho nka monyetla ona ho tlaheha hore diprojeke tse latelang di phetetswe ka katleho selemong sa ditjhelete se fetileng:**

- Kroonstad – Vredefort
- Harrismith Internal Route
- Monontsha Border Post Road
- Smaldeel
- A56 Shannon

- Flood damage and Bridge repairs in Wepener

Ka lebaka la matsapa le maikemisetso a Lefapha ho hlasela tshallo-morao (backlog) ho tsa kaho ya marang-rang a ditsela kahara Profensi, re ikemiseditse ho tswelapele ka manane (Projects) tse latelang tsa tlatsetso tse kgolo tsa kaho ya ditsela selemong sena sa ditjhelete (2018/19) R711 million:

- Deneysville – Jim Fouché
- Viljoenskroon – Vredefort
- Bothaville – Viljoenskroon
- Hoopstad – Bultfontein
- Bothaville – Kroonstad
- Bultfontein – Welkom
- Wesselsbron – Bultfontein
- Hoopstad – Wesselsbron
- Deneysville – Heilbron
- Wepener – Dewetsdorp
- Bethlehem- Reitz
- Senekal – Marquard
- Sasolburg – Heilbron
- Koppies – Schonkenville

The Department has taken a conscious decision that compels established Contractors to accommodate emerging Contractors through a 30% subcontracting on capital projects. As a result of this initiative, SMME's within the Departmental Contractor Development Programme are now involved in road construction activities alongside the giants of the industry. This is also in compliance with the Public Private Partnerships that dictates the allocation of 30% local subcontracting.

We are proud to indicate that we are rolling out the EPWP as per the expected objectives which are; utilization of Labour Intensive Construction methods, maximization of job creation, education and training, SMMEs empowerment, through Contractor Development Programme and public participation through social facilitation.

Selemong sena sa ditjhelete, mananeo a latelang ho tsa EPWP di tla thakgolwa kapa ho kenngwa tshebetsong ka ditekanyetso tse ka bang R60, 8 million:

- Vrede Transport Route
- Thaba-Nchu Transport Route
- Qwa-Qwa Transport Route
- Cornelia Access Road
- Tweeling Access Road
- Soutpan Access Road

Re tla boela re thakgola mananeo (Projects) tsa tlatsetso mane seterekeng sa Xhariep le Lejweleputswa ka ditjeho tse ka bang R20 million. Tsona ke tse latelang:

- Relebohile (Luckhoff) Transport Route
- Zastron Internal Roads
- Dealesville Transport Route, and
- Jacobsdal Transport Route

The Department has, through the Expanded Public Works Program, in 2017/18, contributed to the construction of roads totaling 14km, to a cost of R111 million as part of township revitalization in Vrede, Cornelia, Tweeling, Thaba Nchu, Botshabelo, Tumahole and Qwa-Qwa, creating 5 673 job opportunities by the end of the financial year, out of that number, 2 527 were women and 3 761 Youth. This clearly shows that the Department is committed to addressing inclusivity of the previously marginalized and vulnerable groups.

Madam Speaker, in a bid to contribute towards Radical Economic Transformation, 173 SMMEs were given an opportunity to participate as beneficiaries of the Award Winning Contractor Development Programme (CDP), Grass Cutting and Subcontracting Programmes during the 2017/18 financial year. 20 are Youth owned, 13 Adult owned inclusive of women, and 1 Disabled owned and 127 have graduated and existed the programme. In this financial year 87 CDPs will continue to participate in the programme and local SMMEs will be supported through sub-contracting on the above projects.

For the 2018/19 financial year, a total of R123 million is set aside for investment in the emerging contractors as part of the Contractor Development Programme and it is broken down as follows, R90 million is allocated to contractor development and R33 million is meant for grass cutting.

Madam Speaker, in the last financial year, I invited Farmers in the Free State to work together with Government in addressing some of the gravel roads related challenges. As a result of this engagement and subsequent response, the joint maintenance plan, implemented in collaboration with local municipalities, is progressing well. The Letsema initiative where farmers availed their personal resources to complement those of the Department in order to address the gravel road network challenges, was executed in Xhariep, Lejweleputswa and Fezile Dabi. This initiative will be rolled out extensively this financial year with the support of farmers and Free State Agri. The allocation for maintenance of gravel roads in 2018/19 financial year is R90 million.

During the 2018/19 financial year, Infrastructure projects both Conventional and EPWP, will be implemented in various towns across the Free State, to contribute towards township revitalization. It is anticipated that these would bring about skills development to local SMME's and local communities, better road infrastructure and increased access to basic services. These initiatives are expected to create more than 4500 job opportunities throughout the Province.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Madam speaker, it is common knowledge that the centrality of the Free State poses a unique challenge to road safety carnage in the Province.

Although during the past festive season of 2017/18, the Provincial figures on fatalities went down with 26% compared to 2016/17. We once more want to report that during Easter Period 2017/18 the Province has managed to reduce the fatal crashes with 14% and fatalities with 13%, Free State was the only Province to reduce the fatal crashes in the Country. We are however reluctant to see this as success as we subscribe to the notion that one life lost on our roads is one too many. This decline gives us courage and motivation that with the interventions being constantly applied by the Department, despite financial constraints and including the economic challenges, we will ultimately win the war against road fatalities.

Amongst other interventions that the Department will be embarking on in dealing with road carnage; is education; to teach the communities and road users about safety matters.

It has been noted that, driver attitude and associated irresponsible driving can be counted as key contributor towards road carnages. To deal with that, the Department has considered heavy fines as one of the possible corrective measures that can discourage irresponsible driving.

Ladies and gentlemen, a huge effort was made to minimize public transport conflicts by Public Transport Operators engagement thus the Department will mainly focus on hiking spots by deploying constantly public transport Law Enforcement Officers in all the Regions. Public transport operators will be further engaged regarding branding of vehicles for easy identification in order to reduce pirating, **to this effect the Department has put aside R1 million**. We have discovered that foreign vehicles are being used for transporting commuters in the Province. The Department will embark on intensive law enforcement operations focusing on foreign vehicles residing in the Province.

To enhance, community participation and consultation in road safety initiatives, which are both necessary requirements in the provision of services, the Department will conduct Community Indabas, Taxi Indabas and Driving School's Indabas, Child Road Safety Education and Door-to-Door campaigns as part of the road safety strategy meant to unite all stakeholders.

In a bid to improve service delivery and ensuring the provision of multiple services by our Testing Centres, the Department has thus far managed to upgrade 21 Testing Centres. During 2018/19 financial year, we will continue to maintain Vehicle Testing Stations to meet the minimum requirements. The Department will however focus on improving the condition of weighbridges e.g. Bothaville and also to protect the condition of our roads to deploy the weigh in motion scales across the Province. Furthermore we appreciate the intervention of SANRAL in upgrading Kroonstad and Senekal weighbridge, construction is in progress.

In line with the Batho Pele Principles such as Access, the Department is committed towards taking services nearer to the people and to this effect we will soon be opening Ratlou Registration Authority in Thaba-Nchu. This will ensure that the community of Thaba Nchu and surrounding areas do not have to travel to Bloemfontein in order to get their permits and related documents.

In addition to improving access, the Department has since 2017/18 been rolling out improvement of signage across all facilities. We intend to continue in the same vein as we recognize the significance of making our service points accessible to the clientele.

Madam Speaker, it is pleasing to note that we continued, even during the 2017/18 financial year, to exceed the set revenue collection target. This was achieved through innovation which includes upgrading of Testing Centres, and enhancement of law enforcement initiatives.

MISUSE OF GOVERNMENT VEHICLES

Lebitsong la ho hlaola tshebediso e bohlaswa ya dikoloi tsa Mmuso le diketsahalo tse ngata tsa moo dikoloi tse na di amehang dikotsing tse qosang tahlehelo le ditjeho tse ngata ho Mmuso, Lefapha le se le ntse le thakgotse lenaneo ya thupello e kenelletseng (advanced training) bakeng sa bakganni bohle ba makoloi a Mmuso ka hara Profensi. Ho fihlella ha jwale, Lefapha le se le fane ka thupello ho bakganni ba makoloi a Mmuso ba kabang 3 685 ho hlaha mafapheng a fapaneng. Ditlamorao tsa lenaneo ena di se di qadile ho iponahatsa hobane le dipalo-palo tsa makoloi a Mmuso a amehang dikotsing di theohile. SIYA QHOBA!!

SUPPORT TO THE TAXI INDUSTRY

For quiet sometime, the Free State Province has been relatively stable in as far as the Taxi Industry is concerned. This does not mean that there are no challenges within the Industry, however potential tensions have always been managed through cooperation between Government and the Taxi Industry.

The Department acknowledge that, the towns and cities have expanded due to economic growth, this poses the risk of operators' conflict. To respond to this reality, the Department deemed it convenient to conduct a thorough audit on existing routes as well as new ones to ensure that the taxi industry operates within the prescribed operational legislative framework with the aim of reducing conflict amongst Associations competing for "lucrative" routes.

Madam Speaker, to this effect, the Department, in its endeavor to strengthen relations, co-operation and stability within the Taxi Industry in the Province, is in the process of implementing a Strategy against Taxi Violence in the 2018/2019 financial year. It is anticipated that this will provide for a more integrated and unified approach amongst key stakeholders and Law Enforcement towards stabilizing any volatile situations and rooting out pirating in the taxi industry.

The Department has always supported legitimate structures of the Industry and will continue to do so even in this coming financial year. **Amongst other forms of support, the Provincial Taxi Council will again be allocated R4 million grant to assist in the day to day administration of its affairs.** The utilization of the grant is being overseen by the Department to ensure accountability, value for money and good governance.

Speaker, we have long acknowledged that the centralization of certain functions at Head Office has been detrimental to the Operators who are from other regions as they frequently had to travel to Bloemfontein even for simple transaction. To address this anomaly, the Department has embarked in the process of decentralizing the administrative functions performed by the Operating Licensing Board, which include, issuance of Special/Temporary Taxi Permits, Renewals and Replacements of Operating Licenses, amongst others, to the five districts within the Province. This is aimed at taking the services closer to the communities and improving service delivery.

LEARNER TRANSPORT SERVICES

When delivering our Budget Vote Speech in the previous year, we indicated that since the transfer of the Learner Transport function, in 2015, from the Department of Education to the Department of Police, Roads and Transport, the Department embarked on an exercise that was aimed at addressing the identified challenges which included route analysis and verification of benefiting learners. We also indicated that, as a result of that exercise, the numbers of beneficiaries increased and this also translated in additional routes. Clearly the new information showed that there is a need for additional funding for the programme, since it is impractical to provide for more learners with the existing budget. The Department continues to work hand in hand with the Department of Education and Provincial Treasury to ensure that all deserving learners are transported to schools. The Department will interact with the Department of Education to look at accommodating learners into existing hostels. There are 126 Operators from the taxi industry and business people who are making sure that service is rendered efficiently. If we are to improve our delivery of service in this regard, surely more funds will be required.

CRIME PREVENTION

Madam Speaker, the National Development Plan (NDP) reminds us that personal safety is a human right. It is a necessary condition for human development, improved quality of life and enhanced productivity. This cue points to the fact that safety and security are directly related to socio-economic development and equality and as we have stated before, no economy can grow in an environment of lawlessness and rampant crime.

The Department has successfully conducted Community Outreach Programmes in various parts to raise awareness against crime and related social ills. Some of those events include the one that was held in Dealesville on 09/11/17 and Phillipolis 07/12/17 with the main focus being on Domestic Violence, Contact Crime, Stock Theft, Human Trafficking, Child Labour, and Substance Abuse. Following these activities some successes were recorded especially in Dealesville as some suspects were

arrested for drug related crimes and a festive season plan on fighting drugs was successfully implemented.

We will continue to roll out crime prevention programmes, in a collaborative manner, with all relevant stakeholders and these will include awareness on gangsterism, substance abuse, anti-human trafficking, stock theft, domestic violence and school safety, etc.

Twantsho ya botlokothebe ka katleho e itshetlehile haholo ho tshebedisano-mmoho le baahi ekasitana le ha ba nka karolo ka kotloloho ho sebetsa le Sepolesa. Government has established platforms through which community- police partnerships can be fostered. These include Community Police Forums and the Community Safety Forums. We take this opportunity to make a strong call to all community members to participate in these structures and contribute towards fighting crime. During the assessment of the functionality of the CPFs around the 110 policing precincts in the Province during 2016/17 Financial Year, approximately 30% of the CPFs were found to be dysfunctional. Some have been revived and others were still being revived during the course of this financial year.

The establishment of CSFs is key in the fight against crime. One of the key objectives of the CSF is to serve as a coordinating structure for collaboration and integrated planning and implementation at local government level on matters of community safety and security. These structures have a potential to squeeze space for criminals and this is the reason why we are doubling efforts to ensure that they exist in all Municipalities and function in a sustainable manner.

In 2017/18, the Department has, conducted 9 Community Perception Surveys around police station precincts so as to have a sense of what the community perceptions are, about Police service delivery. The surveys report are shared with the Police so as to use the information in the development of their turn around strategies. I am pleased to report that though the Station's performance varies, there is general improvement in many aspects (such as waiting time, response time to calls, availability of human resources, availability of vehicles, etc.). Emanating from the Surveys, Communities are recommending that the SAPS must improve in the following areas, meetings with the Communities, patrols in the Communities, response time, more resources, and training of SAPS members and treatment of community with respect.

CRIME STATISTICS

In awaiting the final release of the crime statistics I am proud to report that there was significant reduction in the 17 Community reported crime in the province. The crime statistics from April to March 2018 are reflected as follows:

- Total Contact Crime – showed a reduction of 5.45%
- Total Contact Related crime – showed a reduction of 8.72%
- Total Property Related crime – showed a reduction of 4.00%
- Total Other Serious crime – showed a reduction of 10.28%

The Province has experienced challenges with a few stubborn individual crimes such as:

- Murder in which Domestic Violence, liquor, gangsterims, dangerous weapons and firearms remains the primary contributing factors.
- Common Robbery
- Theft out of or from motor vehicle [negligence by owners leaving valuable items visible in vehicles and creating opportunities for break in]
- Stock Theft

Other challenges faced by the South African Police Service in particular, Service Delivery Protests come to mind. The policing of these incidents are re-routing the Police resources to effectively deal with policing.

We acknowledge that people have the right to demonstrate their dissatisfaction but it should be done within the confines of the law. Lawlessness during protest actions by any community will not be tolerated. We will arrest you!!!!

SIGNIFICANT SUCCESSES

Recovery of firearms:

During the 2017/2018 year a total of 1 305 illegal firearms were recovered by SAPS. This includes a variety of firearms. A total number of 25 124 of ammunition was recovered by the SAPS. Of interest is the incident reported at Ventersburg where a total number of 8 firearms were recovered in one operation. The firearms included

- AK 47 = 1
- Pistols = 5
- Revolver = 1
- Shotgun = 1

Recovery of vehicles:

During the previous year a total number of 241 stolen and hijacked vehicles were recovered across the entire province.

Arrest Effectuated:

Total number **51 741** persons were arrested during the previous year. These arrests were for specific crimes committed in the province during operations.

- Rape = **967**
- Murder = **802**
- Driving under the influence of liquor = **2 639**
- Possession of unlicensed firearms = **355**

Several cases were opened and person's arrested for the possession of illicit drugs in the Province amounting to **10 586**. **Of interest is the confiscation of dagga worth 1.9 million recovered last week.**

I am glad to report on the following convictions that were handed down in 2018:

1. The sensational case of the Danish National has placed the spot on the Province as per the **following sentences** were handed down in this regard.

- R5 000-00 or 6 months imprisonment for false information provided
- 12 months imprisonment for assault
- 3 years imprisonment for production of child pornography
- Life imprisonment for rape
- 8 years imprisonment for possession of unregistered medicine
- Life imprisonment for conspiracy to commit murder
- 8 years imprisonment for fraud
- 15 years imprisonment for the possession of unlicensed firearms
- 5 years imprisonment for the negligent loss of firearms
- 3 years imprisonment for defeating the ends of justice

2. Several projects aimed at detecting serious organized crime was successfully terminated with the following arrests:

Project Tornado

The project was aimed at addressing Hijackings in the province. After analysis of the case dockets, suspects were arrested and subsequently convicted as follows:

- **Accused No 1**

6 counts of truck hijacking, 6 counts of kidnapping and 1 count of taking part in gang related activities.

Sentenced to 125 years imprisonment and should serve effectively 28 years.

- **Accused No 2**

7 counts of truck hijacking, 1 count of taking party in gang related activities

Sentenced to 145 years imprisonment and to serve 31 years effectively

- **Accused No 3**

5 counts of truck Hijacking, 6 counts of kidnapping and 1 count of taking part in gang related activities.

Sentenced to 95 years imprisonment and to serve 25 years effectively

- **Accused No 4**

2 counts of truck Hijacking, 3 counts of kidnapping and 1 count of taking part in gang related activities

Sentenced to 44 years imprisonment and to serve 21 years effectively

- **Accused No 5**

2 counts of truck Hijacking, 3 counts of kidnapping, 1 count of unlawful possession of unlicensed firearm and 1 count of taking part in gang related activities

The accused was sentenced to 45 years imprisonment and to serve 25 years effectively.

- These criminals were all South African citizens and one Mozambique national

The following successes are pertaining to Crimes against Women and Children and other vulnerable groups. These include offences committed within the Qwa-Qwa area:

Offence	Life Sentences	15-20 Years Imprisonment	More than 20 Years Imprisonment
Murder	3	3	1
Rape	20	0	4
Murder and Rape	2	0	0
Rape and Robbery	3	0	1
House Robbery, Rape and Armed Robbery	5	0	0
Rape, Assault and Kidnapping	2	0	0
Total	35	3	6

Gangsterism

The police in the province are doing their best to clamp gangsterism and since the 1st April 2017 to 31 March 2018, the police have arrested 159 people for Gangsterism who have been involved in 56 criminal cases. The SAPS cannot effectively deal with this without the support and assistance of the Communities and other stakeholders in the province.

The following are significant Gang Related Cases:

Number of cases opened	56
Number of accused / arrests	159
Number of females arrested	6
Number of cases on Court roll	27
Number of cases at High court	8
Number of cases still under investigation	21

Sentences handed down for Gang Related Cases:

Offence	Life Sentences	10-15 Years	16-20 Years	More than 20 years
Murder	4	13	1	0
Business Robbery	0	2	0	0
Armed Robbery	0	1	1	1
House Robbery	0	6	0	0
Total	4	22	2	1

Human trafficking

Four incidents of human trafficking were exposed and 18 people were arrested for this shenanigan as follows:

1st incident:

In February 2018 about 10 (Ten) victims were rescued by the police at Khune Village and the lodge in Bedelia allegedly operating as brothel in Welkom. The intelligence information was received from Interpol, about a victim at a farm at Odendaalsrus. The police made a follow up on this information and it led to discovery of other victims being rescued at Odendaalsrus at a farm. Nine suspects were arrested during the raid by the police. The police investigations revealed that these victims were from Lesotho where they were taken and promised work.

2nd incident:

Occurred in Odendaalsrus where three males and two females were taken from Lesotho under false pretence that they are going to be employed as shop assistance at Odendaalsrus. On arrival at Odendaalsrus they were taken to a farm where they were made shepherds which was against their will. The intelligence led the police to the farm and the five people were arrested for human trafficking.

3th incident:

It occurred on Monday 2017-08-28 whereby three hundred (300) people including young children were rescued after being found to be employed at different farms at Wesselsbron. These farms belonged to one owner. The victims were kept under filthy conditions and were fed with unhealthy food. The police investigations led to the arrest of two suspects.

4th incident:

On Wednesday 13 September 2017 about 20 people were found to be employed at a farm at Heuningspruit against their will. The police investigations led to the arrest of the farm owner. The father and son are also involved in Wesselsbron cases mentioned above.

All these cases are being investigated by the Directorate of Priority Crime Investigations.

Fraud and Anti-Corruption

The Department has employed a Zero Tolerance approach to combat fraud and corruption.

Corruption cases received during the Financial Year 2017/2018 as follows:

Total Corruption cases received: 38

- Total arrests on Corruption cases: 19
- SAPS employees: 16
- Government Officials: None
- Other: 3

Improvement of services to the rural area communities:

SAPS has also committed to the improvement of the accessibility of services rendered to the communities living in the rural areas through the piloting of the Radical Rural Service Delivery Enhancement Concept in Thaba Nchu Trust and Botshabelo Sections in the 2018-2019 financial year. This concept will ensure that the following services are rendered through the rotation of a Mobile Community Service Centre:-

- Certification of documents,
- Photocopies where possible,
- Distribution of crime prevention hints,
- Community safety awareness,
- Online progress on criminal cases (depending on signal availability),
- Opening and registration of case dockets and any other service which may be required by the community.

The engagement between SAPS and the Farming Communities continue as one of the key deliverables for the implementation of the Rural Safety Strategy. The SAPS in collaboration with the farming communities are continue to conduct the following initiatives and activities:-

- Blue/white light patrols
- Stock Theft operations
- Visits to auctions
- Awareness campaigns with stock owners including emerging farmers
- Ongoing training of the SAPS members and the farming communities on the branding of stock, stock theft as well as the tattooing of small stock
- Distribution of pamphlets
- Participation in the functional provincial cross border forums for stock theft [Gauteng, North West and the Northern Cape]

- Bilateral engagements through bi-lateral meetings with Lesotho

Other pockets of excellence by Police

On Friday 2nd February 2018 we launched Operation Fiela 11 which its objective is to:

- Maintain law, order, peace, security and stability
- To create a conducive environment for all people in South Africa to participate in social and economic activities
- To reclaim the space or areas controlled by criminals
- To provide humanitarian assistance and empower the vulnerable and highly affected communities; and
- To re-affirm confidence of South Africans in their Government
- Mona Re hatakela – Re tlosa manyofonyofo, mme re tsumula botlokotsebe le metso.

Here member departments has adopted a zero tolerance approach based on Broken Window syndrome when operationalizing FIELA II involving all role players' focusing or targeting the following:

- Illicit drugs
- Contraband, counterfeit goods and music piracy
- Immigration and Labour laws enforcement
- Human Trafficking and Prostitution
- Illegal firearms and ammunition
- By-Laws and Traffic management activities
- Liquor Act and second hand Goods Act enforcement
- Hijacked and condemned buildings
- Illegal clinics and abortion sites
- Public education and awareness campaigns
- Tracing of wanted suspect
- Illicit mining
- Gangs and violent crimes
- Building social cohesion
- School safety
 - Illegal taxi operations or Pirate
 - Hijacking and disrupting of government Projects

We reaffirm our obligation and commitment as Free State Government and PROVJOINTS stakeholder on the call made by our cabinet in ensuring that the people of the Free State are and FEEL safe at all times.

WHITE FLEET

The Free State Fleet Management is an entity of the Department of Police, Roads and Transport, and is responsible for effective and efficient management and administration of Government Motor Transport in the Free State Province.

During 2017/18, 485 vehicles were procured as per the needs of the Client Departments, a bulk of which were procured for Traffic totaling 223. The Department has done a lot in this regard such that during the launch of the Provincial October Transport Month, the Minister of Transport was impressed and commended the Province for resourcing traffic and he further challenged other Provinces to emulate the Free State.

The Department in support of the mandate of the Department of Health to improve the reaction time in terms of transporting patients to hospitals and clinics, procured 133 vehicles.

Values of co-operative governance found recognized expression when Fleet Management's Road Building Equipment was used in collaboration with various Local Municipalities such as Moqhaka, Setsoto, Mohokare and Mantsopa in joint infrastructure development activities. These initiatives included Road Building Equipment being used for re-graveling of roads within the townships, access routes and removal of illegal corner dumps.

BUDGET ALLOCATION 2018/19

The total fiscal envelope of the Department for 2018/19 Financial Year is R 2.777 billion which is an increase of 2.8% compared to 2017/18. The Equitable Share allocation including own revenue is R 683 million.

The Learner Transport function has been allocated R50 million for next year and over MTEF. The Infrastructure Enhancement Allocation decreased to R396 million.

The Provincial Road Maintenance Grant increased by 2.0% amounting to R1. 300 billion. The Conditional Grant will be utilized to improve the road conditions in the Free State Province.

The Public Transport Operations Grant has increased by 3.2% to R264 million. The revenue target for the 2018/19 financial year was increased from R745 million to R770 million. So far R717 million for the current financial year revenue collection constitutes of 96% the target has been achieved.

Honourable Speaker, it would be remiss of me at this point not to briefly take a moment and affirm the solid administrative foundation our late HOD, Mr. Sandile Msibi has laid in order to ensure sustenance of the many milestones we've already alluded to. The re-configuration of this Department following the Executive Council's decision, meant that a lot of hard work had to be carried out to bring it on par with the Provincial imperatives as well as the ANC government priorities as contained in the Elections manifesto.

We do not have any other choice but to forge ahead with an intense programme that is tailored to tangibly effect Radical Socio-Economic Transformation in our Province. The recent appointment of HOD Mthakathi should therefore go a long way in enabling us to further raise the bar with regard to the latter!

Let me take the opportunity to express my appreciation of the support and leadership provided by the former Premier of the Free State, Dr. Magashule. His astute leadership has in many respects placed our Province on the map and my gratitude also go to my fellow colleagues in the Executive Council and Free State Provincial Legislature for their support in our efforts to make the Province a better place for all.

My special thanks go to all the employees of the Department and stakeholders alike. Finally, I wish to thank my family for allowing me space to serve the people of the Free State without which the task at hand would have been somewhat difficult.

Honourable Speaker, I hereby table 2018/19 Department of Police Roads and Transport Budget Vote for Adoption by the House.

THANK YOU

END.