

DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD
KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

FOURTH SESSION

THIRD LEGISLATURE

THURSDAY, 2 AUGUST 2007

**THE HOUSE MET AT 10:00 IN THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER,
PIETERMARITZBURG.**

**1. SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION, OR READING OF THE PRAYER IN
SCHEDULE 2.**

The Deputy Speaker, Prof L G B Ndabandaba, took the Chair and read the prayer.

2. OBITUARIES AND OTHER CEREMONIAL MATTERS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, it is with great regret that I have to announce the passing away of the hon member Mr J Krog's father. He passed away yesterday, 1 August 2007. Please let us remember the Krog family in our prayers and thoughts during their time of bereavement. I now request hon members to rise and observe a minute of silence.

Members of the House observed a minute of silence.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: May his soul rest in peace. Amen.

Hon members, I also wish to mention the following apologies that have been tendered to the Office of the Speaker: The Speaker, the hon Mr T W Mchunu, is not in the House today. He will be attending the NCSL Conference in the United States of America from 2 to 13 August 2007. As the Americans say, he will be in Boston. The Secretary of the Legislature, Ms N Naidoo, and members of senior management will be attending the same conference with the Speaker to offer him support.

The MEC for Finance and Economic Development and Leader of Government Business,

the hon Dr Z L Mkhize, is attending the National Budget Council *lekgotla* [meeting].

The MEC for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs, the hon Mr M E Mthimkhulu, will be arriving later.

The hon Mr G B Bhengu and the hon Mr H L Combrinck of the IFP are unable to attend the sitting today because they are away at a workshop.

The hon Inkosi B N Mdletshe will therefore assist the hon Mrs L R Mbuyazi as one of our designated Whips for today.

I hereby wish to remind hon members and staff to remember the hon Mr T D Ntombela who is unwell and has been booked off for quite some time. Let us keep him in our prayers.

May I also inform this House that the hon Mr R E Keys suffered a heart attack on 20 July 2007. We wish him a speedy recovery. Last week, the Speaker and I were in Cape Town, attending the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) conference. We had expected the hon Mr Keys to join us and were very sorry that he was not there. We missed him.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, I have great pleasure in announcing that Nando's Chicken, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, had approached the Legislature a few weeks ago with an intention to treat women MPLs in light of the fact that the month of August is dedicated to women. We commend Nando's for this gesture and we hope the ladies will enjoy their Nando's meal. It is a pity that we men were not invited too. [Laughter] Nando's will be serving lunch in the Legislature's canteen in the Administration Building.

Hon members, it is common cause that August is a month during which we celebrate contributions made by women – the successes and struggles that they went through, and are still faced with in certain instances. The Legislature has certain aims and objectives that it stands for, and supporting women is one of them. It also makes provision for women to celebrate, reflect and carve the way forward. The Legislature does that through sectoral parliaments, in this instance Women's Parliament, which will

be held at Borough Grounds in Port Shepstone on the South Coast, Ugu District, from 7 August to 8 August 2007. That is Monday and Tuesday of next week. The programme is attached for members to scrutinise. I will not read it, because it will take up too much of members' time.

We now proceed to the next item, which is "Tabling of Reports and/or Papers". I now give an opportunity to ...

MR J S NDEBELE (Premier of KwaZulu-Natal): Mr Speaker, you seem to have skipped an item.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: The English language is such a nice language. When you skip something, they do not call it a mistake. They call it a slip of the eye. Hon Premier, my apologies. The next item is "Announcements or reports by the Premier."

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS BY THE PREMIER

MR J S NDEBELE (Premier of KwaZulu-Natal): Thank you, Mr Speaker. Firstly, I have an announcement which forms part of the obituaries. Two weeks ago we lost a member in the Office of the Premier, the co-ordinator of our outreach programme, Mr Mbambo. He died of natural causes. It was a terrible loss to my office, because Mr Mbambo was a very capable young man with a Master's degree.

After we buried him, we also lost Mr Mncwango last week. He was the Head of Procurement in the Office of the Premier. He had been there since 2000 and was a very trustworthy member of that office. He acquitted himself very well. He too died of natural causes. A memorial service will be held at the Symmonds Centre this afternoon at 13:30. It has been quite a sad loss for the Office of the Premier and for the province.

I must also indicate that I was at Kwakhamela to meet His Majesty on a normal consultation. We spoke specifically about the implementation of the Royal Trust Act which is to be gazetted shortly. We discussed how it will operate and so forth, and His Majesty and I had consultations about those issues. The meeting went exceedingly well. We also touched on other issues that we will be dealing with as the year progresses. There is an invitation by uMvoti to commemorate the Bambatha uprising. We will also celebrate the construction of the statue of King Dinizulu. King Dinizulu, of course, was tried and sentenced in that municipality, and therefore the commemorations will take

place on the 16th and 17th.

We have a series of other celebrations that will take place next year. Certain dates are connected with certain people: King Dingane with 1838; King Shaka with 1828; King Dinizulu was arrested and sentenced in 1908, and *Usilo* Cyprian died in 1968. So there are a number of those things that will be unfolding as the year goes on. It is just good that members should be aware of them. Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr Premier, for the announcements. Once again, we apologise for almost skipping that important item. Hon members, may I request the House to rise and observe a minute of silence to remember those gentlemen in the Premier's Office who passed away.

Members of the House observed a minute of silence.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: May their souls rest in peace. Amen.

5. TABLING OF REPORTS OR PAPERS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: It looks as if there are no reports or papers to be tabled.

6. FORMAL MOTIONS AND NOTICES BY THE CHIEF WHIP

MR V C XABA (Chief Whip of the Legislature): Mr Speaker, there are no formal motions or notices from the Office of the Chief Whip.

7. NOTICES OF BILLS OR MOTIONS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: This item is, as the hon Speaker always says, your favourite subject. [Laughter] Good. I think I have captured all your names.

MR M A I KUBHEKA (ANC): Mr Speaker, I hereby give notice that I shall move on the next sitting day of the House as follows:

This House noting:

True to the declaration of the Congress of the People of June 1955 that there shall be peace and friendship, Africa is making a decisive break with the conflicts of the past that have engulfed our people;

The peace progress in Cote d'Ivoire confirms the determination of the people of the continent to establish peace, and

It also confirms the centrality of South Africa towards the creation of a better Africa and a better world.

Therefore resolves:

To salute the people and leadership of Cote d'Ivoire for their commitment and achievement, and

To express its appreciation for the work of the South African government and sterling leadership of President Thabo Mbeki who had a brigade, the Thabo Mbeki Brigade, named after him.

INKOSI B N MDLETSHE (IFP): Somlomo Baba, ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo ngiyokuphakamisa kanje:

Isizwe saKwaZulu sikubuka ngokuqaphela ukuthi kunemigubho egujwayo eHhovisi likaNdunankulu lesiFundazwe saKwaZulu-Natali, yileyo ephakamisa izenzo zalabo bantu ababelwa nobunye besizwe nentshisekelo yobumbano nenhlonipho yesizwe saKwaZulu, bekwenza lokhu ngoba bethunye ngabathile ukulwa nesizwe saKwaZulu.

Iyakubuka futhi ukuthi uMnyango kaNdunankulu ukwenza lokhu ngokuqhakambisa inkululeko yokuziphatha noma yokuveza imizwa yomuntu ngomuntu ngokukhululeka.

Lokhu sikubuka njengesenzo, sixwayisa nangokwenza kwakho.

Ngiyokuphakamisa kanje.

MR R M BURROWS (DA): Mr Speaker, I hereby give notice that I shall move on the next sitting day of the House as follows:

This House noting:

The increasing number of cases of sexual violence against women and children;

An increase in the number of reported cases of domestic violence, and
Attacks which have taken place in or near a school environment.

Therefore resolves:

To call on the MEC for Community Safety and Liaison to increase the vigilance of the police and, in particular, to ensure that every step is taken by all police stations to prioritise action against crimes pertaining to women and children, and

To call on the national Minister of Safety and Security to urgently reconsider the deployment of FCS units so that specialised crimes receive specialised attention.

REV A H MBATHA (NADECO): Ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo ngiyokuphakamisa kanje:

Le Ndlu izwakalisa ukuzwelana nemindeni ehluKumezeke kakhulu yizingozi zomlilo ezenzeke kulesi Sifundazwe.

Le Ndlu iphakamisa ukuba:

AboMnyango we-Local Government and Traditional Affairs bakhe isu elenza ukuba yonke imiphakathi ibe nama-fire brigades, abe nemishini efanele yokulwa nemililo futhi ixhaswe imiphakathi nokuthi kube ne-inspection ye-equipment on a regular basis.

Ngiyophakamisa kanje.

MS Z M LUDIDI (ANC): Mr Speaker, I hereby give notice that I shall move on the next sitting day of the House as follows:

This House noting:

The accident that took place yesterday morning on the corner of Alan Paton and Alexander Road;

The fact that the vehicle involved was crushed and a traffic light was knocked to the ground, and

That by yesterday afternoon the traffic light was functioning as if nothing had happened.

Therefore resolves:

To commend the swift action of the uMsundusi Municipality in fixing the traffic light, and

To call upon all other municipalities to do the same.

I so move.

MS L A MNCWANGO (IFP): Ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo, Baba Somlomo, ngiyakuphakamisa kanje:

Le Ndlu izwakalisa ukushaqeka ngemibiko yabezindaba eveze ukuthi uNksz. Zandile Mpanga waseMlazi washaywa ngabesilisa abathile bamkhumula ibhulukwe wasala ngunu ngoba kuthiwa nje, kalifuneki. Kanye nokuthi umuzi wakwabo washiswa nangomlimo.

Le Ndlu-ke iyonquma kanje:

Ukuzwakalisa ukuzwelana noNksz. Mpanza kanye nomndeni wakwabo ngalesi sehlo esibuhlungu esabehlela. Ukusifela ngamathe lesi senzo sobulwane sokuhlukumeza umuntu wesifazane noma ngaziphi izizathu.

Ukuncoma abomthetho ngokuthathela lezi zigebengu izinyathelo.

Ukunxusa abomthetho ukuba bavikele umndeni wakwaMpanza kulezi zinswelaboya.

Ukuthuma abaholi bakule ndawo ukuba basebenzele ukugxilisa ukubusa ngentando yabantu kanye nelungelo labantu lokuzikhethela lokho abakuthandayo.

Ngiyakuphakamisa kanje.

MR S N MTETWA (ANC): Somlomo ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo ngiyakuphakamisa kanje:

1. Le Ndlu iyakunaka ukulangazelela intuthuko kweBandla lamaNazaretha Baptist Church nomholi walo iNkosi yamaNazaretha.
2. Loku kubonakala ngomcimbi omkhulukazi obuseBuhleni ngomhlaka 27 Julayi 2007, obunabantu ababalelwa esigidini.
3. Ukuphendulwa kwesoyi lesakhiwo esizosiza abantu bonke bendawo yaseNanda nebandla.

Ngalokhu le Ndlu:

Ikhuthaza nabanye abefundisi nabaholi ukuba abanake ukuphila kwabantu komphfumulo nokuphila ngokwenyama ngoba uJehova ungowabanjalo bonke.

Ngiyakuphakamisa.

MR M B GWALA (IFP): Somlomo, ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo ngiyakuphakamisa kanje:

1. Ukuphatha ngokubudlabha kodaba lwebutho iNgcugce nokuhlanakezelwa kwamaqiniso ngebutho leSilo saKwaNodwengu, okunguDloko noDlodlo, elakhehlwa iSilo sasoNdini, kuyadumaza ukubona kudunusiswa umlando weSilo neSilo sasoNdini okuyinsakavukela eyenziwa yiqembu elibusayo eliletha isithombe sokuthi amakhosi oselwa angondlovukayiphendulwa nokuthi aphoqa abantu besifazane ukuba bagane abantu besilisa abangabafuni.
2. Umlando weNgcugce udinga ukuthi uwazi ukusuka nokuhlala ngoba uma uwuhlala amankamfane uzokuchitha uphenduke inhlekisa ezweni ngokukhuluma amaqiniso ahlanekezelwe.

Ngakho-ke le Ndlu inquma ukuba:

Udaba lweNgcugce luxoxwe kwinkulumompikiswano yale Ndlu ukuze amaqiniso abe amaqiniso namanga abuyiselwe nganhlanye.

Ngiyokuphakamisa kanjalo.

MR E S MBATHA (IFP): Ngiyathokoza Mahamba, Somlomo. Ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo ngiyokuphamisa kanje:

1. Le Ndlu ikushayela ihlombe ukuphumelela kwemizamo yokusindisa iqembu lebhola Amazulu FC, uSuthu olumabhesh'ankonye, engozini yokudayiswa nobekungaholela ekubeni lisuke kulesi sifundazwe noma lishabalale unomphela.
2. Le Ndlu ibona le mpumelelo njengezindaba ezimnandi kubo bonke abathandi bebhola ikakhulukazi kulesi sifundazwe.
3. Le Ndlu izwakalisa ukukhathazeka nokho ukuthi leli qembu elikhulu nelinomlando livamise ukukhungathwa izinkinga ezihlale zilibeke engcupheni.

Ngakho-ke le Ndlu izophakamisa kanje:

Ukuthi inquma:

1. Ukubonga kubo bonke abasebenze ngokuzikhandla ukuba ivinjwe le ngozi;
2. Ukuxwayisa bonke abasondelene naleli qembu ukuba baqikekele ukuba bangaphinde bezithole sebekulesi simo futhi besebenzela ukuba lizinze libuyele endaweni yalo elifaneleyo;
3. Ukukhuthaza wonke amaqembu ebhola alesi sifundazwe ukuba asebenzele ukugcina izinga lawo lesifundazwe liphezulu, ikakhulu njengoba sibheke emidlalweni yebhola yendebe yomhlaba u-2010.

Ngiyokuphakamisa kanjalo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finally, the hon Mr Hamilton from the IFP.

MR A J HAMILTON (IFP): Mr Speaker, I hereby give notice that I shall move on the next sitting day of the House as follows:

This House noting:

The successful introduction of the National Credit Act and its effectiveness in

curbing debt extension and rampant consumer spending.

Therefore resolves:

To express the hope that the Governor and Monetary Policy Committee will not raise interest rates further which will result in overkill, and

To express the hope that the NCA itself will bring inflation back down to within the three to six percent target rate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon Hamilton was neither last nor least. The next speaker on the list is the hon Mrs Mbuyazi from the IFP.

MRS L R MBUYAZI (IFP): **Ngiyathokoza Somlomo. Ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo ngiyakuphakamisa kanje:**

1. Le Ndlu ishaqekile futhi idabukile ngemibiko ebuhlungu ehlasele izindawo eziningi kulesi sifundazwe sakithi kanye nakwezinye. Kwabhubha impahla nempilo yabantu uqobo.
2. Le Ndlu iyaluqonda usizi olubhekene nemindeni eminingi ngenxa yemililo nokuthi lesi simo sibuyisela emuva imizabalazo yabesilisa nabesifazane yokondla abantababo kanye neyokuzithukisa kwezomnotho.

Le Ndlu inquma kanje:

1. Ukuzwakalisa ukukhala kwethu okujulileyo kuyo yonke imindeni elahlekelwe ngabathandiweyo babo kanye nempahla yayo ezuzwe ngezithukuthuku;
2. Ukuthuma amalungu ale Ndlu ukuba akhombise ubuholi nobuntu ngokwenza umfelandawonye wosizo oluzobheka kule mindeni;
3. Ukunxusa osomabhezini nalabo abasesimweni esingcono ukuba belule izandla ukusiza le mindeni esele dengwane.

Ngiyokuphakamisa.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Pandor, I am sorry your name escaped me. However,

you can never ... [Indistinct]

MR K PANDAY (IFP): The name is Panday.

MR R M BURROWS (DA): Mr Speaker, I merely draw your attention to the fact that, although she might have been shielding behind my fairly large shape, my colleague had been standing at the appropriate time.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: I take it she will be the final one. Comrade Singh? Hon Singh? [Laughter] Comrade Shabalala, please proceed.

MS L F SHABALALA (ANC): Mr Speaker, uShabalala was standing before the hon member Mr Panday.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Shabalala, as a former principal of a tertiary institution, I will consider your request.

MR K PANDAY (IFP): Mr Speaker, I hereby give notice that I shall move on the next sitting day of the House as follows:

This House noting:

The sample survey by the Auditor-General between March 2004 and January 2005, which points to the fact that as much as R300 million in housing subsidies had been paid to 50 000 fraudulent beneficiaries, and

That in five provinces alone, since 1994, 2 554 people have died while waiting for their housing subsidies to be approved.

Therefore resolves:

To urge the Government to rethink the current administration of housing subsidies in the light of the ongoing fraud and the legitimate need for housing among the most deprived communities.

MS L F SHABALALA (ANC): [Somlomo ngokuhlala kwale Ndlu okulandelayo ngiyokuphakamisa kanje:](#)

1. [Isigameko sokuhlukunyezwa kowesifazane eMlazi oshayiwe](#)

wadatshulelwa izingubo azigqokile kwabuye kwashiswa nomuzi wakubo ehanjiswa nqunu emgaqweni ngoba nje egqoke ibhulukwe lakhe.

2. Lesi senzo sibukela phansi umgubho wenyanga yabesifazane negalelo labesifazane emzabalazweni, neqhaza lombhikisho owaya ezindlini zombuso ngo-1956.
3. Nokuthi kuyacaca ukuthi ukucindezelwa kwabesifazane phecelezi *patriarchy*, nokuthi bacatshangelwa ukuthi yini ebafanele nengabafanele, iseyinselelo enkulu kumbuso wase-*South Africa*. Lena insila yengcindezelo ewuphawu lomlando we-IFP ephinde yamasha ibhikishela ukuthi ababoshiwe bakhishwe esitokisini.

Le Ndlu inquma kanje:

Ukuthi i-IFP kayiphumele obala, ixolise emphakathini nakwabesifazane bonke nje nakulo lonke izwe. Ingagcini ngokuthi nje ibhale kwi-Sowetan ukuthi yona ihlukene phakathi ngodaba lwamalungelo oluntu.

Okulandelayo kuthi ukubonga uKhongolose eThekwini ngokunakekela nokubhekela indawo yokuhlala labo abahlukumezekile. UKhongolose aqhubeke njalo alwele amalungelo abantu besifazane.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: The last member is the hon Mr Singh from the ANC.

MR A SINGH (ANC): Mr Speaker, I hereby give notice that I shall move on the next sitting day of the House as follows:

This House noting:

That parts of our beautiful province have been ravaged by fire and precious lives have been lost;

That farms and livestock have been burned down to the ground, and

That farmers and farm workers have lost loved ones and livestock.

Therefore resolves:

To call on the Government to declare all these areas to be disaster areas.

MR R M BURROWS (DA): Mr Speaker, I must once again implore you to give my colleague, the hon Mrs Ambler-Moore, an opportunity to speak. She stood up right at the beginning.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: My apologies. Let her speak.

MR R M BURROWS (DA): Thank you, sir.

MRS M H AMBLER-MOORE (DA): Mr Speaker, I hereby give notice that I shall move on the next sitting day of the House as follows:

This House noting:

That there have been more than 200 cases of rabies reported since the beginning of January this year;

That there has been a predicted rise to 450, an increase since 2006, and

That four people and 204 animals have died since January this year, the main problem being inadequate staff, as most have been busy treating swine fever.

Therefore resolves:

To call on the MEC for Agriculture, in conjunction with the MEC for Health and the MEC for Education, to treat this preventable disease as a matter of urgency, and

To allocate sufficient staff resources, thus preventing further cases of rabies.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, I thank you for your motions. I see you, Mr Hamilton.

MR A J HAMILTON (IFP): Mr Speaker, may we request that the hon member Ms

Shabalala's motion be checked for 100 words?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will go into the matter, thank you. Hon members, I must thank all of you for your contributions to this important item and I must say all of you were stars.

8. ORDERS OF THE DAY

8.1 Annual Consolidated Report on the Performance of Municipalities

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now have a Report by the MEC for Local Government, Housing and Traditional Affairs, the hon Mabuyakhulu, Ndiyema, on the Annual Consolidated Report on the Performance of all Municipalities, with emphasis on those underperforming municipalities and remedial actions thereof. The hon MEC will have 20 minutes at his disposal. Ndiyema, it is now over to you.

MR M MABUYAKHULU (MEC for Local Government, Housing and Traditional Affairs): Mr Speaker, hon Premier of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal, Dr J S Ndebele; hon members of the Executive Council; hon members of the Provincial House, hon Leader of the Opposition, distinguished guests and all protocol observed, it gives the Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs pleasure to present this report on the performance of municipalities to this august House.

Mr Speaker, hon Premier and hon members, we table this report at a time when our province is enveloped by a pall of gloom after runaway veld fires, propelled by gale force winds, left a trail of destruction in our beautiful province, resulting in the loss of lives and the destruction of property.

In my capacity as the executing authority of the department, entrusted by the hon Premier with the political authority of managing disasters and co-ordinating them in our province, I would like to send our heartfelt condolences to all the families who lost loved ones in this catastrophe. We would also like to send our deepest sympathies to all the farmers - both subsistence and commercial - in our province whose livestock perished in the disaster. However, despite the gloom and havoc wreaked by the runaway fires, we would like to salute the staff of all government agencies and non-governmental organisations who went beyond the call of duty and rallied to the rescue of thousands of our people who were caught up in this disaster.

While a disaster of such calamitous proportions can induce shock among even the most stoic of us, we are heartened by the heroic deeds of ordinary men and women, gallant fire-fighters, intrepid animal rescuers and our gutsy fellow countrymen who risked their lives to save property and their fellow human beings. In a world which is becoming increasingly cynical about the concept of human solidarity, we are inspired by the fact that the resilience of the human spirit and our shared sense of humanity have indeed triumphed in this critical hour of our need.

I stand today before this hallowed House, filled with a sense of measured contentment at the strides that have been made by the humble efforts of the Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs in changing the fortunes of municipalities in our province.

We say our contentment is measured precisely because we know that, while today we can proudly speak of many of our municipalities which are citadels of excellence, our task will not be accomplished until all our municipalities have overcome the challenges that prevent them from effectively delivering on their constitutional mandates.

While a lot has been achieved in our quest to improve the delivery capacity of our municipalities, we are under no illusion about many challenges that continue to impede our municipalities from realising their true potential.

It is for this reason that when we delivered our budget policy speech in this esteemed House during April of this year, we spoke of “the rise of a shining star”.

We said with the support ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon MEC, could I take one second of your time to thank the scholars for their interest? I see they are moving out now. Goodbye, scholars.

MR M MABUYAKHULU (MEC for Local Government, Housing and Traditional Affairs): Mr Speaker, I am sure that, because you have taken up some of my time, you will be generous towards me at the end! [Laughter]

With the support and direction that our department is giving to municipalities in the province, we are seeing our municipalities, traditional leadership structures, our province and, most importantly, the people of our province rising as shining stars, ready to

contribute to our provincial, national and international efforts to create a world characterised by peace, justice, prosperity and equality. We said a shining star is rising because excellence in local government has become a habit when compared to the past when it has been an exception.

However, precisely because we are aware that we can only improve on our efforts to change our municipalities for the better if we continuously engage in an honest and candid introspection about the ground that has been covered, we feel that there are still some areas in the performance of municipalities that need to be attended to. While we will not delve too deep into some of these areas in the interest of time, we will, however, highlight some of the critical areas because we have no doubt that hon members will be able to interrogate this report in detail later.

At the outset, we wish to state that our ultimate objective is to have municipalities that perform at the highest level. We believe that excellence is not an option, but a must. It is precisely for this reason that we will not only concentrate on those areas in which we have performed well when we present the synopsis of this report. We will also highlight those areas that still present challenges to our system of local government. We will do so precisely because we are our own motivators, and we believe that every challenge is a success waiting to happen.

I must, however, state that the areas of weakness reflect a tiny fraction of the local government performance picture. We have chosen to highlight these challenges because we want hon members in this Legislature, our sister departments in the private sector and other roleplayers to put their collective shoulders to the wheel to ensure that we have an excellent system of local government when it comes to performance.

The wheels of transformation in local government continue to grind. At the centre of this transformation process is the imperative to build a developmental, democratic, accountable, people-centred and efficient system of local government that effectively responds to the needs of local communities, especially the poor. This is by no means an easy task. Whatever the odds are, we nevertheless have to succeed. Our quest to improve the lives of all our people demands that we dare not fail.

In presenting this report, we will be guided by the five-year local government strategic agenda which has become a roadmap to keep us focused on building a developmental local government.

Institutional Development and Transformation

We believe that our municipalities can only succeed in effectively delivering on their constitutional mandate if they are led by suitably qualified local government practitioners who not only understand the strategic objective of their municipalities, but who also appreciate the responsibility that has been placed on their shoulders by historical factors.

The importance of putting in place necessary organisational structures and the filling of critical posts in municipalities cannot be overemphasised. We are therefore pleased to report to this esteemed House that a large number of municipalities in our province (55% of them) have indicated that they are in the process of reviewing their approved structures. We are also pleased to announce that the majority of municipalities in our province have filled senior positions. Having said this, however, we have noted that there are a small number of municipalities which face challenges in the filling of their senior management positions, namely Richmond, Umvoti and Mtubatuba, Umgungundlovu, Umzinyathi and Sisonke.

We have also noted that 13 local municipalities have relatively high vacancy rates, a situation which could negatively affect service delivery. These include Ugu, Uthungulu, ILembe and Sisonke district municipalities. We are also pleased to report to this House that the transformation of municipalities to reflect our national demographics is continuing apace, with 72% of municipalities in our province indicating that more than half of their senior management is from the previously disadvantaged groups. However, some municipalities are still struggling in this regard. These include Umzumbe, Hibiscus Coast, Richmond, Umvoti, Big Five, False Bay, Umlalazi, ILembe and KwaDukuza.

The representation of women and people with disabilities in senior management is also one of the issues to which municipalities need to pay closer attention. Only three municipalities - eThekwini, Mthonjaneni and Mbonambi - have indicated that they have people with disabilities employed in senior management. Only two municipalities - Mbonambi and Ntambanana - have indicated that more than 50% of the senior

management structures comprise women. We are also engaging with municipalities to pay closer attention to the employment of women as municipal managers. Currently, out of the 61 municipalities, we have only three municipalities which have women as municipal managers, and we need to achieve equity in this regard.

We are also concerned that not enough progress has been made with regard to the adoption of the indigent support policy. We believe that the provision of safety nets for the poor is one of the critical areas that municipalities should look into.

In assisting our municipalities to address some of the above-mentioned challenges, our department has introduced a number of measures. Critical among these, is the issue of the recruitment of staff with the requisite skills. Our department is also continuously monitoring and, where necessary, supporting municipalities to prepare and implement their employment equity plans.

With regards to financial management and viability, one of the benchmarks through which any organisation can measure its own success is by its ability to manage its financial resources and to generate and diversify its revenue streams.

We are therefore pleased to report to this House that our efforts to turn our municipalities into centres of fiscal and financial rectitude are beginning to yield the desired results. One of the critical challenges that continue to face some municipalities is the lack of a revenue base.

Added to this is the issue of the debt that is owed to many municipalities by business, government departments and residents who are able to pay but decide not to pay, these could net billions of rand into the municipalities' revenue. This means that there could be significant cash flow into municipalities' coffers which will enable municipalities to sustain themselves. We are supporting municipalities to recoup some of these outstanding debts.

We are also pleased to report that most municipalities have met the statutory deadline of adopting their budgets prior to 30 June 2007. However, a few municipalities have experienced challenges in this regard. These, among others, are Imbabazane, Greater Kokstad, Umzimkhulu, Impendle and Nongoma. We have also noted that compliance

with the submission of financial statements to the Auditor-General has improved and the quality of the audit reports has also improved.

We have also noted that there is significant improvement in the alignment of budgets with IDPs. Budget alignment to the IDP was measured on two levels. The first was to ensure that overall the IDP priorities and strategic intervention areas are identified in the spatial framework of the IDP. However, more importantly, hon Speaker, we want to simply say, our department in keeping with its constitutional injunctions, has committed itself to assisting municipalities to carry out their mandates and support them, where necessary. To this end, municipalities in our province have received direct support from the department to implement billing systems. Our department, working in tandem with the Office of the Auditor-General, has eliminated all backlogs in submissions of outstanding financial statements. Further to this, our department has also developed a guiding framework for implementing the Municipal Property Rates Act which is being implemented in eight municipalities.

It is often said that one of the key ingredients through which we can foster the culture of good governance in municipalities is by promoting accountability to all our clients who are the stakeholders at a local level. In this regard we are pleased to report before this House that 27 municipalities have reported that they have properly functional ward committees in place. Our department has also committed itself to assisting those municipalities which are experiencing challenges in setting up their fully functional ward committees.

In dealing with matters dealing with development planning, I want to say, hon Speaker, that we believe that in this area we have done a lot to assist municipalities. Our approach as government is to ensure that local planning is in sync with national and provincial imperatives. In this regard our efforts are to encourage municipalities to align their programmes with provincial and national programmes as always has been the case.

In this regard we are therefore pleased to report that all our municipalities have responded positively on the issue of improving disaster management planning. However we believe there is still huge room for improvement in this critical area. We are, however, in the process of implementing the resolutions of the disaster management

summit which clearly details what we need to do, the type of training capacity that is required in our municipalities.

Let me then move on to dealing with issues dealing with Local Economic Development (LED). In respect to this, we have developed plans and we have assisted 57 municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal to have their own LEDs. Only 15 municipalities have adopted their LED strategies while 36 municipalities are in the process of preparing and finalising theirs. In this instance it is important that all of us come together to assist municipalities to do their best.

In conclusion, what we have presented before today is but a synopsis of what is contained in the report on the performance of municipalities in our province. While the report identifies a number of weaknesses in the functioning of municipalities, it equally points to the fact that our interventions as the Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, in order to help municipalities to realise their potential, are beginning to yield the desired results.

We believe therefore that the foundation we have laid is enough for all of us to continue to build municipalities that will not only be vehicles for service delivery excellence, but that will make an indelible imprint in the lives of our people.

Despite the weaknesses identified by the report, we are heartened by the strides that we have made over the past three years in ensuring that our municipalities are centres of excellence. Where in the recent past some municipalities had no financial systems to talk of, today we worry about compliance with such systems with the majority of municipalities meeting the stated deadlines. It is in this context that we dare say that this sphere of government is emerging as a shining star in our province. As we look back at the recent history of our municipalities, we cannot help but say: "How far we have come!"

This report tells us that nothing is impossible. All we need is to work together driven by our collective objective to better our people's lives. Let us work together in partnership to achieve the vision of a better and developmental local government in KwaZulu-Natal and across our country.

Mr Speaker, I present before this House the KwaZulu-Natal Consolidated Annual Municipal Performance Report which I hope you will find very valuable and indeed with your contribution you will make it even better. Thank you, sir.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon MEC for Local Government, Housing and Traditional Affairs, Ndiyema, we thank you very much for your report. I must say that I did not interfere with your time. I hope you took note of that. Thank you very much, Ndiyema.

8.2 Debate on the International Study Tour to Northern Ireland and London

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, the next debate is on the international study tour to Northern Ireland and London by the Portfolio Committee on Community Safety and Liaison. According to the speakers' list in front of me, the debate will be opened by the hon Mr M E Sithebe for 10 minutes. Hon Mr Sithebe, please?

MR M E SITHEBE (Chairperson of Portfolio Committee on Community Safety and Liaison): Mr Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to table the report before this august House. However, I think I just need to mention a few things before actually presenting this report. I need to point out that when we had that study tour, all hon members who were part and parcel of the delegation or deputation, behaved very well. It is therefore important to thank all hon members for the behaviour they displayed throughout this time.

It is also important to note that amongst hon members who went on that study tour, we no longer have with us the hon Fikile who played a very important role in terms of organising events - even some braais in London, in Brixton in particular. Having said that, I think I need to go straight to the summary.

This report is divided up in three sections. The first section covers Northern Ireland, and Belfast in particular. The second section covers London, and the third section deals with the recommendations which we compiled immediately after our visits to Northern Ireland and London.

The focus of the study was to address the oversight role through exposure to Northern Ireland and its experience in areas such as community safety, domestic violence, youth offending, drug, substance and alcohol abuse, as well as the provision of support and care for the elderly and victims of domestic violence.

The political situation in Northern Ireland necessitated the extension of our focus to include the current situation in the host country. Since the political processes were still unstable, our study tour was postponed from September to November 2006. The lack of trust between DUP and Sinn Féin created conflict which resulted in the collapse of the National Assembly, as well as the suspension of members in 2002. New elections took place in 2003, but members never took up their seats in the parliament in Northern Ireland. Discussions between all parties led to practical changes to the operation of institutions. To enact these changes the government will introduce legislation prior to the statutory deadline of 24 November 2006.

We also became acquainted with a number of projects such as community safety wardens, the Women's Aid Federation, the "Good Morning" project, the youth justice system and so on.

Community safety wardens are councillors and officers responsible for patrolling in order to tackle anti-social behaviour, reduce the fear of crime and improve the quality of life for everyone. They identify problems and work in partnership with local residents and other organisations to resolve problems of that nature.

The Women's Aid Federation provides information, support and guidance to 10 autonomous women groups who render services to women, children and young people affected by domestic violence.

The "Good Morning" project offers a telephonic service which checks on the well-being of the elderly and vulnerable members of the community. It was founded in 2003. The "Good Morning" project, which has a safety lifeline, is offered free of charge. Three projects are currently running in Belfast. They operate collaboratively with the justice restorative programme.

The youth justice project aims at preventing offending and re-offending. Children are removed from their residential areas due to anti-social behaviour. The anti-social behaviour of children sometimes leads to the removal of their families from the area by terrorist agencies.

The People's Trust agency was used for protection in the past when police had no access to areas that were risky.

When we were in London, the focus was to share good practice with the London police, both Scotland Yard and the metropolitan police in areas such as monitoring police performance, rape and domestic violence.

There is a unit dealing specifically with rape cases on an ongoing basis and the investigating officers update victims on what is happening. It has been proved that victims are extremely traumatised by their experiences. About a year and a half ago the government introduced legislation with a new definition of rape. It is up to victims to choose whether or not investigations are conducted on issues such as post-rape trauma, HIV tests, counselling and so on. They always believe in what the victim reports. A specialised forensic unit makes use of photographic evidence to validate the reported incident.

When it comes to domestic violence, the affected people are given necessary care which includes medical care, counseling, etc. Through the domestic violence risk assessment, the offender is asked about their offending history. They operate jointly with partnership agencies, non-governmental organizations and statutory agencies, as well as health, social and education structures.

To address the issue of violence in schools, the Safer Schools Partnership which came into being in 2002 is very successful. The Safer Schools Partnership looks at the school as a whole, crime prevention, crime, truancy, youth education and intervention skills. They have operated at 410 state secondary schools since July 2002. Each officer is assigned two to three schools, depending on the location of the school, i.e. 197 officers are responsible for 350 secondary schools. These police officers deal with everything such as theft of pocket money, robbery, crime, etc.

As a delegation we are profoundly grateful to the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature, the Department of Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, the Portfolio Committee on Community Safety and Liaison, the Department of Foreign Affairs and all the individual institutions which offered assistance and guidelines in order to make this study tour a success. I think this sums up what is contained here. I invite hon members to go through this report and raise any questions they may have.

The report contains a good description of our study tour to Belfast and London. It was indeed a very good oversight exercise from our side. Even our hon MEC had visited

these two destinations in the past and learned quite a number of lessons from them. This kind of unique approach might also assist the hon MEC and hon members of this House in that they will be able to contribute more meaningfully to the debate on some of these crucial issues.

Mr Speaker, thank you. I herewith present this report to the House. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, we now proceed to the next speaker. There has been a slight to the list. The hon Dr Mtshali appeared on the original list, but apparently there has been a change. It is now going to be the hon Inkosi K W Mathaba for five minutes. Hon Mathaba? Ndabezitha.

INKOSI K W MATHABA: [Ngiyabonga, Somlomo Baba. Ngifisa ukusho ukuthi njengoba esewethulile lapha uSihlalo lo mbiko lo wokundwendwela kwethu kuleli lizwe laphesheya kodwa angikhumbuze iNdlu ukuthi ezinsukwini nje zethu zokuthi sambe isimo asibanga sihle. Kwaba kumbi kwasuka esinamathambo. Lapha ngomhla ka 31st ku-Okthoba 2006 kwaba khona i-motion lapha eyayiphasiswa ngokungeneliseki kokuphatha kukaSihlalo uDkt. uMantshinga. Nokho-ke okwadala ukuthi-ke sekwenziwe imisebenzi yonke emihle uSihlalo uMantshinga kwase-ke esebeka ethala ukuba uSihlalo. Nakho-ke sasesiba noSihlalo omusha uBaba u-M.E. Sithebe. Ngithi-ke angibonge kubaba uMantshinga ngokuthi-ke naphezu kwalokho waqhubeka wawenza umsebenzi ngendlela efanele, sahamba kahle kwaba khona ukubambisana okuhle kakhulu.](#)

[Sesifikile le e-Northern Island kubanakele ukuthi izwe impela elinezimpi ngangokuthi masemukelwa osukwini lwethu lokuqala uMnumzane u-Peter Bong kwaba kunenkinga eziningi. Uma uqhathanisa izinkinga ezile e-Northern Island nezinkinga esinazo la singamaqembu ngokwehlukana ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi sibekezelelane. ngangokuthi e-Northern Island iphalemende lakhona sifikile bese sekuneminyaka emine lingasasebenzi amalunga ephalemende ehola ehleli phansi. Nanomsebenzi-ke owenziwa ngama-wardens akhona uma sikuqhathanisa nama-Committee Policing Forums alana, benza imisebenzi emihle yokunciphisa ubugebengu nakuba benganawo amandla okubopha njengoba nama-Committee Policing Forums ethu la izi-member zingenawo; kodwa okuhle ngabo okuwukuthi banikezwa nane-uniform engicabanga ukuthi into enhle leyo mhlawumbe uNgqongqoshe wethu, okungahamba ngokuhamba kwesikhathi, mhlawumbe kubonakale ukuthi benziwa njani laba bantu bakithi ukuthi bebe nomehluko](#)

ebantwini abasuke besebenza umsebenzi ofana nalona. Ngiyafisa futhi ngisho ukuthi sisezweni elihle lapha eNingizimu ne-Afrika nakuba sibuya obandlululweni olukhulu. Uma uhamba kwezinye izindawo zakhona kunendawo lapho kunama-*partition walls* khona la abezenkolo bengezwani nakuzwana bebulalana impela nje ngakho kwakhiwe izindonga ezinkulu lezi thina esingenazo lapha ezweni lakithi laseNingizimu ne-Afrika nakakhulukazi la KwaZulu-Natal.

Ngakho-ke bayakuqikelela futhi ukuhlukunyezwa kwezingane o-*child abuse*. Banezimali abazikhiphayo banikeze nabantu abasuke bengasebenzi ukuzama ukuthi kwehliswe izinga lobugebengu. Uma sengibuya sesivakasha sesiya e-London la safika kunesidumo khona la kubulewe khona isitshudeni esasisolakala ukuthi sasiphethe ibhому. Uma usubuyela ekuphatheni kwezikhali banikezwa amandla ukuthi uma umuntu eyi-*suspect* bashaya ngenhlamvu belalise phansi lokhu thina esiphikisana nakho thina la ezweni lakithi ukubulala ngenhloso. Ngakho-ke ngezinye zezinto esazibona. Izwe labo lithuthukile. Ubugebengu lapha eLondon kunama CCV's lokhu esikufisayo ukuthi nathi la ezweni lakithi eNingizimu ne-Afrika ukuba kuthiwa zikhona izimali ngabe sithi mawafakwe ama-CCV's kuzo zonke kuwo wonke amakhona kungabi zindawo nje lezo ezibalulekile ukuze imiphakathi yakithi ikwazi ukuthi isinde. Ngakho-ke ngithi_ke Somlomo ilezo zinto ezinhle esizincomayo esazibona zenzeka laphaya. [Kwaphela isikhathi]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Our next speaker will be the hon Mr Sithebe for six minutes.

MR M E SITHEBE (ANC): Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Kuyinto enhle ukuthola ithuba lokukhuluma kulolu daba olukhungethe izwe nelikhungethe umhlaba uwonke, udaba lolu oluthinta ubugebengu nezinselelo ezilethwa ubugebengu esibhekene nabo umhlaba nje uwonkana. Sithi-ke lokhu-ke kukhombisa ngokusobala ukuthi sibhekene la nokuthi intando yeningi siyakha kanjani phansi kwezimo ezifana nalezi, la kukhona khona ubugebengu obuqhamukayo kuwubugebengu obukhombisa nje ukuthi wonke umhlaba ukhungethwe yibona. Uhambo lwethu lolu olwaya laphaya kula mazwe omabili, siyi-*Portfolio Committee* saya laphaya ngenxa yokuthi kukhona izinto ezifanayo esazibona kufanele ukuthi sikwazi ukuzilandelela laphaya. Ikakhulukazi uma ubuka isimo sokuthi okufanayo yilolu daba lokuthi uma

ubheka izinto abahlangabezana nazo usuku nosuku nezinselelo abahlangabezana nazo sabona ukuthi kuyefana nababehlangabezana nazo. e-Northern Island. Okokuqala kube ukuthi uma sibheka ukuthi bebehlangabezana nesimo sodlame obelukade lukhona nathi ngapha sihlangabezana nodlame obelukhona ludalwa ngohulumeni ebebekade bekhona kungabanye abaqhuba ukuthi kube khona lolu dlame. Sithi-ke lolu dlame obelukade lukhona luqhutshwa ngohulumeni ebebekade bekhona la ngaphakathi; bekungudlame obelwenza ukuthi amaphoyisa kanye namasosha uqobo uthole ukuthi nawo akhona abambe iqhaza kulesi simo sokuthi kube khona udlame ezweni lakithi. So-ke i – *challenge enkulu* is to transform the police service in this country so that we move away from a paramilitary style of operation and provide a decent and user-friendly service to our people.

I think that is one fundamental challenge that we are confronted with as a young democracy. It is for that reason that we decided to go and see if there are any similarities between the experiences of the people in Northern Ireland and our experience here at home. We wanted to see if we could merge our experiences and come up with best practices for our young democracy - the country, as well as the Province of KwaZulu-Natal.

In Northern Ireland we managed to meet with some officers from the police department who spoke, amongst other things, of their programmes which seek to transform the service that they render as a police department or division. They have come up with the idea of community control in a neutral working environment. They needed to have community control in a neutral environment because they were so politically polarised before. In our country this is a common experience. This is an area in which we want people to play a pivotal role in terms of policing so that it does not become something that is only confined to police officers only. Everyone should actually be playing a role so that we are able to clamp down on crime.

They also informed us of their new badge and their new oath. In fact, their new oath says in essence that they are no longer providing a selective service. They are providing a service to all the people. This is a very similar situation that we are experiencing in our country where, in the past, some services were provided exclusively for white people. Because we are building a South Africa that belongs to all who lives in it, we are saying today that we should go beyond providing a service to an exclusive group, a chosen few.

We should provide a service to all people across the board.

It is for this reason that when you go to all the big rural-based police stations, you do not find as many units than you would if you had to go to urban-based police stations in this country. These are the types of challenges that we are faced with, and it is for this reason that we need to be looking at ways and means of fast-tracking the transformation of our police service.

The other matter was the fifty-fifty recruitment policy that they came up with. Before this happened, only the Protestants were beneficiaries of this recruitment drive. They needed therefore to come up with clear mechanisms to redress the imbalances of the past. We in this country may learn some lessons from them, because quite a number of people who preside over police stations ...[Time expired]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sithebe, thank you very much for your contribution. Hon members, according to my list the next speaker is the hon Mrs S Thakur-Rajbansi, but I do not see her in the House. I therefore proceed to the next speaker, the hon M Z Mthuli from NADECO for six minutes.

MR M Z MTHULI: Somlomo Baba, angibonge ithuba ongipha lona. Somlomo izwe lakithi likhungethwe ubugebengu obesabekayo futhi obungenasidingo kuleli lizwe esiphila kulo. Inkomankombane iyohlale ikhona phakathi kwamaphoyisa kanye nomphakathi okuyodingeka ukuba kuphele lokho ngoba vele akunasidingo.

Amanye amaphoyisa ahamba eqinisweni, amanye ahamba eduze kweqiniso ayesaba ukuhamba kulona kanje. Ukungabibikho ngokwanele kwama-*Strongroom Support on Crime Prevention* ezweni lakithi kuyayidala inkinga enkulu phakathi kwezwe. Isibonelo: Kunecala eliqhubekayo eCamperdown lapho omhlophe akhomba khona ngesibhamu ekhomba ummangali. Inkinga enkulu kuleli cala ekhona ukuthi u-Ex same Station Commander wakhona uyena ozama ukuthi leli cala ukushushiswa kwalo kungabi ngendlela. Okuyichilo-ke nokuyihlazo elikhulu kabi lelo. Ngakho-ke Somlomo mina ngiphakamisa ukuthi ukuqashwa kwamaphoyisa noma kwephoyisa uma liqashwa akuncike kakhulu ekutheni umphakathi wakuleyo ndawo ulazi kangakanani ulazi ngobuhle noma ulazi ngobubi yini na, ngoba ukuqasha noma yikanjani kuyokwenzeka ukuthi kuqhubeka nokuthi kuqashwe abantu abavele bengaziphethe kahle bese benza imikhuba ethi ayifane nale. Ngiyabonga Somlomo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Mthuli. According to my list, our next speaker is the hon Mrs J M Downs for four minutes, but I do not see her in the House. I therefore proceed to the next speaker who is the hon Mr B J Msomi from the UDM for four minutes. I do not see him in the House either. The hon Mr R M Burrows from the DA is the next speaker and he has seven minutes.

MR R M BURROWS (DA): Thank you, Mr Speaker, I want to congratulate the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Community Safety and Liaison and thank the committee for the tour. I was not on the tour, but my colleagues, the hon Mr Keys and the hon Mr Krog were on the tour. Unfortunately they are unable to be here, but I am sure they would much rather have preferred to stand here to make this speech today.

Nevertheless, I have read the report with great interest. Obviously, we did discuss the outcome of their trip some time ago when they returned, and we had a caucus meeting about it. It was clearly a good learning experience. I think study tours are one of those things that we need to talk about, because if we go on study tours and we do not learn from them, they becoming nothing but a freebie. We actually have to learn. We have to analyse what we have seen and what has come across.

The political experience in Northern Ireland is one where the people of Northern Ireland actually learned from us originally. We had good representation, particularly during the time of the transitional government, between 1990 and 1993, when there was representation in Northern Ireland from both the ANC and the then National Party.

I am pleased to say that matters have progressed politically since we have received the report earlier in the year. We now know that there is a new government in Northern Ireland, consisting of both Protestants and Catholics, loyalists and Sinn Fein and that Sinn Fein have accepted to go into the police force. As the hon Mr Sithebe has said, that is a very important step that has been made now. It is one of those key areas of debate and discussion, so there was a lot of learning experience.

One of the things when going to England, however, is of course that it is sometimes difficult to compare and contrast. England and Wales have a population almost the same as South Africa, about 48 million. We have 19 000 murders a year; they have 750. It is very difficult to compare and contrast those two situations, so I am not going to do that. What I do want to do is to pick up the issue of social crimes, because these are where

comparisons can be made.

One of the many experiences, which our touring study group learned from Northern Ireland and the English experience, is that specialised units do work. In particular I wish to refer to those which undertake the tasks of policing child abuse cases and those concerning schools.

It is now history that the SA Police Service leadership and policy makers have implemented the dissolution of the family violence, child protection and sexual offences units. These have now been spread into the stations across the face of the province. They have been spread thin. The effect of this has been immediate. Their coverage is restricted in terms of what they are looking at. They are maldistributed and there is a deprioritisation of social crimes in those stations. I am sure that the hon MEC will come back to me on this. This is a debate and I think I can have it.

However, let us contrast what is happening here - and I do not want to discuss that length - to what our study team found overseas. They found a youth justice project in Northern Ireland which monitors incidents of child abuse on the domestic front, with a special section of the police specialising in child abuse cases; the Scotland Yard unit specialising in rape cases; the Child Abuse Investigation Command and the Safer Schools Partnership. In all of these the specialists are dealing with appalling crimes. We have to learn from our study tours. This study tour gives us an opportunity to press for far more focused attention on the crimes that I have mentioned.

Let me amplify on our school crimes. Recent incidents in Durban and elsewhere have had the effect of threatening our children and teachers in their very classrooms. While I accept that schools cannot escape from the violence of the society around them - and that is true around the world - at least we should be doing something focused about it. If we study our own report, what can we learn from this?

Firstly, we should allocate specific SA Police Service officers to monitor and police particular schools - one officer to three or four schools. Let that officer become known. Let these persons know the school, its teachers and the youngsters. Let them look after all the safety measures. Let them speak to youngsters about drugs and other threats to them. Let us have a personal relationship between the police and the schools.

Secondly, let us ensure that there is an immediate communication link from the schools to the nearest police station. Make it a panic button or an electronic link. It does not take a wire contact for them to be linked electronically, so there can be an immediate reaction if children and schools and teachers are threatened.

Thirdly, erect the fences necessary to protect them. The hon MEC for Education knows this and she is doing it. She has had a 145 schools fenced this year and I know she is pushing on hard with the money she has got.

Finally, let us create safer schools partnerships. This could include the Department of Education, officers from the SA Police Service, the local CPF, parents, teachers, learners' councils, business people and friends of the school. Let us get this set up for every school and let them take on school safety. It is everyone's job; not just the MEC's and not just the police's. There has to be community involvement.

Let us translate the kind of learning experience we came back with into something positive. Let us at least debate it in the House, as we are doing now. Let us also debate it in the portfolio committee. Let us pick it up. These are not party political issues as such. These are issues of strategy. What is the best way of going about things? Maybe the best way is not to have specialised units, but then we have to see delivery. Maybe it is to have specialised units, and then we have to make sure that everybody gets serviced by them.

Study tours such as these are extraordinarily valuable, providing we learn from them. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr Burrows. Hon members, our next speaker will be the hon Dr L P H M Mtshali from the IFP for eight minutes. [Interjections] I am sorry, hon members. Our watch is misbehaving this morning. Hon member, please proceed. We will use an ordinary watch.

DR L P H M MTSHALI (IFP): [Kusinda kwehlela](#). Mr Speaker and hon members, the often declared pride and joy of the ANC government at all levels - national, provincial and local - is that in everything it does, it supposedly follows international best practice. Community policing, however, is one area where domestic practice is at odds with international best practice, and we in the Official Opposition feel obliged to urge the

government to observe its own precept and rethink the decentralisation of specialised police units along the lines of international best practice. This is one of the most profound observations that we in the Portfolio Committee on Community Safety and Liaison made during last year's international study tour to Northern Ireland and London. This is also one of the key recommendations which the portfolio committee put forward in its report.

Last year the IFP reacted with shock to the decision to close down all SA Police Service family violence, child abuse and sexual offences units countrywide and redeploy the staff to ordinary police stations. The decision was taken by the SA Police Service as part of a skills audit and an overhaul of the SA Police Service.

The IFP was particularly shocked to see such a step taken so shortly after the national Minister of Safety and Security had released statistics showing a dramatic increase in crimes against children. Indeed, our children were said to suffer the consequences of this uninformed administrative decision that deprive them of protection by family violence, child abuse and sexual offences units.

We in the IFP were particularly concerned about the impact of the decision in the uMzimkhulu policing area then, and in the Midlands area then, which only a year earlier, in 2005, had statistically the highest conviction rates for child abuse in KwaZulu-Natal. Worldwide specialised police units exist within many law enforcement organisations, either for dealing with particular types of crime, such as traffic law enforcement, crash investigations, homicide or fraud or for situations requiring specialised skills, such as underwater search, aviation, exploding devices disposal and computer crimes.

I could not put more emphasis on the fact that their functions are both preventative and detective. These units are specialised primarily because they deal with peculiar and often violent situations which are beyond the capability of a patrol officer's response. Plainly speaking, the complexity of our liquor legislation, for example, or the ambiguity of the illegal drug trade across the province cannot be dealt with by a police service whose reach is restricted within traditional police station boundaries. If there ever was a case for specialised police units, it will be in KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa, given our consistently high crime levels and violence that underlie them.

Regardless of the routine ministerial wordplay to the contrary, crime continues to be a

major problem in this province and in this country. South Africa stubbornly ranks very high for assault, murder and rape. Total crime *per capita* is equally and persistently high. On the whole, crime has had a profound effect on our society. South Africans have abandoned the central business districts of some cities for the relative security of the suburbs.

Emigrants from South Africa frequently state that crime was a big motivation or motivator for them to leave. Crime continues to plague our farming communities. As crime interferes with the lives of our communities, we have all the more reason to heed international best practise in combating it.

Another powerful observation and subsequent recommendation made during the international study tour concern the safer schools partnership programme. With its provision for close corporation between the police service personnel and educators, it is clear that the breakdown of school discipline cannot be appropriately addressed without the full participation of school management and the application of professional expertise provided by the formal police service.

The international best practice in question dictates that the aim of school discipline is ostensibly to create a safe and happy learning environment in the classroom. In a classroom where a teacher is unable to maintain order and discipline, students may become unmotivated and distressed and the climate for learning is diminished, leading to underachievement. All these problems are painfully familiar to anyone who has studied the challenges of South Africa's education system.

One last concept that grabbed the attention of the portfolio committee on its international tour was that of communally safety officers. These figures have entered the community scene as a result of the belief that keeping communities safe involves more than just preventing crime and disorder. Communities must also promote internal progress and provide the social and economic change. In other words, if we are to make our communities safer, we must all work together. In practise, community safety officers may lack the full competences of formal police service personnel but, more importantly, for their specific designation they carry the innate authority as members of the community. As such, they are well equipped to target the anti-social behaviour of fellow individuals within that community. Not only does this approach relate closely to our own community-

centred philosophy, but it also constitutes international best practice.

Somlomo Baba, uhambo lwethu lwaPhesheya lwasiza kakhulu ngoba lwabika ngokusobala izinselele amany' amazwe abhekana nazo ekulweni nobugebengu. Isinyathelo esathathwa kuleli lakithi, sokuba kuhlakazwe amaphoyisa awochwepheshe ekulweni nobugebengu - lokhu phela okuhlasela abesifazane nezingane nentsha. Yebo kwenziwa ngesizathu sokuthi phela akubonelelwe ukuthi isimo sokusebenza singagculisi kakhulu amaphoyisa awodwa endaweni ethile. Siyakubabaza nje-ke thina ukuthi: awu yek' izinga lempumelelo elazuzwa zintombi nensizwa khona lapha enkabeni yesiFundazwe, khona lapha eMgungundlovu. Baze kaklonyeliswa kwathiwa: hhawu cha, niyakwaz' ukuphenya amacala anjengala, amacala okunukubeza. Babekwenza besuka khona la eMgungundlovu. Kwahamba phambili uMgungundlovu enkabeni yesiFundazwe, ngalol' uphiko lolu oluqondene nalezi zimo. Yibona futhi abaphumelela emacaleni ma sebey' enkantolo. Hheyi zagwetshwa izigebengu, bagwetshw' abadlwenguli, kwaya le kwaya le. Kodwa Somlomo baba sisakhala. Akukho yini okungenziwa Ndosi, Khumbuza, Gibandlela, ukuba ke kubekhona ukulala kuphendukwa kulol' udaba. Lab' ochwepheshe bamaphoyisa sibadinga kakhulu bahlinzekelwe. Hhayi ukuthi bayobekwa eziteshini bese bejahana nezigebengu zinke lezi zezinye izinto. Siyawadinga amaphoyisa angochwepheshe. Isimo sezwe lakithi siyabudinga ubuchwepheshe. Siyabubonga ubuchule bochwepheshe bamaphoyisa abhekene namacala amabi egazi, al' ukhasha! Walala phansi u-26 laphaya eMvoti [interjections]. Somlomo baba, bashaqwa nje ngosuku olulodwa balaliswa phansi laphaya eMvoti. Nampaya bekheth' amacala, akukho noyedwa owake wathola ukuthi cha-ke ake ayoxox' ekhaya. Mhlawumbe akake ath' ukuyonsinda, athi ukuchelachela, cha! Sithi-ke Somlomo baba ukuze siphumelele ezweni lakithi, ake sibheke nasezikoleni ukuthi akukho yini okungenziwa ukubambisana phakathi kwamaphoyisa nalaba bemfundo njengoba benza eNgilandi. Ake sifunde izifundo ukuze siqhubekele phambili njengezwe. Khathide!

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: We thank you very much, [Hlabangane](#), for your contribution and for reminding the House [ngobukhothi bezangoma](#). We now call upon the hon MEC Magaye to respond to this and close this important debate.

MR B H CELE (MEC of Transport, Community Safety and Liaison): [Somlomo baba angibonge](#). Cha angiyivali, iyovalwa oyivulile.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ndosì, you have 15 minutes.

MR B H CELE (MEC of Transport, Community Safety and Liaison): [Iyoalwa oyivulile nami nje ngisika kwelilengayo, ngisika elijikayo nje ngibon' ukuthi senzenjani.](#)

As I have said time and again, time is an international phenomenon and you are in the global village called the world. Indeed, there are things that the world can learn from us and there are things that we can learn from the world. So, such study tours help us to pick what we think could be a part of all of us going forward.

However, again, it is no use to fit ourselves sometimes at the level where we can't run. That's why I agree with you, hon Mr Burrows, when you compared the number of deaths. For people in the UK to be where they are has taken hundreds of years. People sometimes forget that we are a society in transition. The South African society is in the midst of a process of transformation. You look at us and you think of Russia where that society dismantled some of their systems and put new systems into place. I haven't heard anybody comment on that. Maybe it would be proper for us to undertake a study to Russia. I myself have never been there. [Interjections] Oh, you have been there?

MR R M BURROWS (DA): Last year, with the NCOP.

MR B H CELE (MEC of Transport, Community Safety and Liaison): It will be proper to have those comparisons. One area in which Russia is a world leader at present is in the area of alcohol abuse. Theirs is a society in transition, and the abuse of alcohol and the abuse of drugs lead to other things like murder, *et cetera*. So, when we compare, we must understand where we are so that we do not depress ourselves unnecessarily. I agree that 19 000 murders a year is a huge number. It is a huge number, but for a society in transition, that's how it will be until that society stabilises. We need to take on board where we come from. For instance, when you go to London, you won't find [imijondolo oyithol' eNanda](#). You won't find all those shacks. Those things feed on violent crimes, because people live in squalor which causes people not to behave in a normal way. So when you do these studies, you must take those things on board.

When it comes to the social crimes, I believe that South Africa is beginning to grapple with that in putting structures in place to deal with those matters. By the the way, I do not care whether you convert 50% of South Africans and make them police officers - they

still will not be able to deal with social crime if the community is not involved. That goes for all of us, because these crimes are generated in the houses where we all live. We all fully understand these trends, so we must be part of that.

I now wish to refer to some terminology that was used. Mr Burrows used the term “dismantling” and uHlabangane used the term [ukuhlakaza](#). I would not use the term [ukuhlakaza ngingasebenzisa itemu: ukuhlela kabusha](#). So, [zicishe zish' int' efanayo uma ungazi kahle kanti zona cha zihlukile ukuthi zahlakazwa lezi zakhiwo](#). Sithi thina: [zahlelwa kabusha](#).

Mr Burrows says they dismantled these structures, the specialising units. We say they were rearranged. [Interjections] Yes, yes, definitely! What happened was not dismantling. The feeling is that, indeed, they are specialising in various areas, but they were not on the frontline of crime and so they were taken to the stations. They are there with the skills [uHlabangani akhuluma ngawo](#). We did not say we are taking away those skills. They are there. Whether or not you agree with that approach, we believe that if they are at the stations, people can go to them directly. They can get fresh evidence, rather than being invited to collect evidence. Now the specialised units are right there! They're always got invited three, four days down the line. If you deal with the crime of rape, one of the critical issues is time. When do you do those things? So, it is important that these people are right there at the stations. This system has only been in operation for under a year, so the results will not be telling at the present moment, but we are beginning to believe that we did the right thing when we listen to the people outside.

If we take the commissioners and other highly skilled people to the stations, we believe we're going to yield better results. The skills have been brought closer to the people, rather than kept hidden in the ivory towers. [Interjections]

I never think of crime prevention. By the way, hon Mr Burrows, your party issued a statement which I will come to in a minute. The fact is: All South Africans are enforcement agencies. Every South African is allowed to arrest anybody if he or she follows the letter of the law. That's why I was amazed by the DA's statement that I was wrong to arrest somebody who was breaking the law on the road. I was amazed to hear that from the DA. I said to myself: “This is politicking at its worst.” I am not going to sit back when I see somebody breaking the law. What we did was to take that person to the

police station. You must remember, I walk around with South African police members. For your party to issue that statement was opportunism of the highest order. Must we allow people to break the law? No, we will take people to the police station and we urge all members of this House to be officers. The only thing you should not do is to put yourself in danger. So, you can report somebody to the police, but if it is a person that you yourself can take to the police station, do so. However, you can't just say: I am not an enforcement officer, Cele, despite what you say. By law any citizen is allowed to make a citizen's arrest. I'm allowed to do that by the South African law. So nobody can tell me that I am not an enforcement officer. [Interjections] Exactly, and that includes you! You can do it! What you do not do is to break the law. I hope one day the DA will write another statement to put that matter right. I hope the DA will write a statement in which they confess that they didn't understand it very well. [Interjections] Ja, you must put it in order so that we do not demobilise any community that wishes to work against crime.

The other major thing that we need to put in order is an integrated approach, hence the formation of the JCPS in the province. The starting line from where the police implement their strategies until the end product, when somebody is in the correctional service or in prison, is a very long process that has very much disintegrated. It has very much been broken into pieces, so it needs to be won. The last end must understand the first end, but mostly communities must be part of the processes.

Recently we arrested somebody who was released on parole in Port Shepstone. This guy got parole. The first thing he did was to get a gun and terrorise the people. This person was supposed to do 25 years, but was given parole after 10 years. What did he do? He went back to his community and started terrorising people. Well, I'm glad that he was arrested again. So, the communities must be ready that so and so is coming back in the community. They must be able to say: But that one is a terrible one. He has raped so many people. He has killed so many people. The community must be in a position to have a say. There must be a proper integration of the structures of the government together with the communities themselves. JCPS is trying just to formulate that and we are glad that in this province, at least, we do have that structure at present to work with the communities. I'm glad, Hlabangane, that at least you acknowledge the successes of the specialised unit when it comes to Operation Greed. The Organised Crime Unit, under Director Booyesen, has had huge successes when it comes to big heists, bank

robberies and ATM crimes. KZN actually leads when it comes to those kinds of crime.

The famous “shoot to kill” statement - or is it the infamous “shoot to kill” statement ... I heard *inkosi uMathaba* say that we are not allowed to shoot a suspect. Indeed, *bab' uMathaba*, people are not allowed to shoot a suspect. Most of us, you included, would not have been alive today if that had been the case. At one stage you yourself were a suspect, so they would have shot you and we cannot allow that. We allow the police to respect the law. Respecting the law will follow Section 49 (a), (b) and (c) of the South African Police Act. When they are under threat and everybody shows an intention of shooting at the police, police must shoot back with immediate effect. That's what we say they must do. We are saying that no policeman or woman must die with a gun in their hand. When they must defend themselves or when they must defend the communities, they must do so.

However, we are not encouraging rogue police to be trigger-happy. Again, under no circumstances must the police wait to be shot at first. When somebody pulls out a gun and cocks it, the next thing that will happen is that they will shoot at you. So if somebody pulls out a gun while the police is trying to make an arrest, the police must shoot. They must make sure that they demobilise those people so that the police are safe.

In this province police are getting shot by thugs and police die with their guns in their hand. We cannot allow that. However, they cannot just shoot at anybody who moves. It doesn't work that way. Even the law does not allow for that. However, police are constantly put under stress, so when people pull guns and point them at the police, the police must just shoot them.

We are implementing some of these things that we learned, especially the volunteer corps that we are dealing with. We learned it from Scotland Yard. However, again we should not undermine South Africans' approach and South Africans' integrity. At one stage, I do not know with who it was done, but people from Belfast requested the input from South Africans of how did South Africans manage to be where they are because, indeed, if you come to polarisation, Belfast is bad. It is terrible. You see, there is an area where even cats should not be outside the window! They are forever inside the window because it is an abnormal society. In most societies, as you move in between and among the houses, you find no children playing outside. In Belfast that's what you see. It

is quiet because everybody stays indoors. If you cross the street you are dead. So we can contribute our wisdom to other countries, as we do when we go on these study tours. Yes, we are there to learn, but people are also prepared to learn from us, so let's use those resources which we have.

However, if you read the report, you will see what we in South Africa can learn from them. South Africans can implement certain strategies that will help fix the problem and which will help us, not necessarily any other thing because *ivela Phesheya into yakuqala leyo ukuthi hhayi ilungile ngoba ivela Phesheya ifike nomlungu, siyayithatha. Cha, cha siyoyithatha ngoba ivumelana nathi, ivumelana neSouth Africa. Sesaphela lesi sikhathi konk' okumlungu kuRight, ma kubuye nakho nje eLondon kuRight. Cha, zikhona nathi izinto zeth' ezinhle esicuphe ngazo. Siyofunda sikuyeke okunye, sikuthathe okunye. Siyayibong' iReport. Sizoyisebenzisa.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: *Insert isiZulu 11:58.*

MR M E SITHEBE (ANC): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I have listened very attentively to each and every member who debated on this issue. What is quite common is that all members are very concerned about us trying to clamp down on crime. I think that is going to help us a great deal to ensure that we begin to provide a service that our people require out there.

I won't be saying much, save to say that emphasis is placed on us working with communities, as per the provision of our Constitution, Section 208, which deals with the Police Civilian Secretariat. We should actually be in a position of providing that type of a service.

I think, Baba Magaye, you are right when you are saying that, as members of the society, we have the right also to assist the police if we find a person who is committing a crime. You cannot just close your eyes, but you should actually play a role. Once I found a lady who was being raped and I had to escort that lady to the hospital. She was raped right next to the hospital. I had to escort that lady to the hospital and take the other guy to the police station. So I am saying, you are quite right to say we have that responsible role to play.

I think the challenge that we are faced with is that we regard the police as the only agency that deals with crime. That would actually not help us a great deal. We should encourage all our civil organs to play a major role - the churches, the non-government organizations - all of us should come together and play a pivotal and concrete role in terms of dealing with crime. That would actually help us a great deal and that is how we have managed to defeat apartheid and we can also defeat crime if we work collectively as people of this country.

Thank you, Mr Speaker, for allowing us to debate this burning and essential issue that confronts our young democracy. Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: I thank the speakers on the list and the hon MEC for telling us about how to avoid criminogenic factors in our country. I am making these remarks as a criminologist. [Laughter]

8.3 Debate on First Quarterly Report on Service Delivery: Department of Sport and Recreation

MR A RAJBANSI (MEC for Sport and Recreation): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I want to take a leaf from the pages of a previous debate when the first national Minister of our country said: "One person in sport is one more person out of court." I want to say that because of sport, the Department of Sport and Recreation, municipalities, federations and the corporate sector in this province are firing on all cylinders. The importance of our province can be highlighted by the fact that there are major events taking place in Durban and elsewhere in our province. The very fact that the Springbok team is training in our province before going to the World Cup, is a clear indication of this.

However, I want to present this quarterly report against a certain important background. Yesterday I signed a very historic collaboration agreement between the Department of Education and the Department of Sport and Recreation. My colleague, the hon MEC for Education, Mrs Ina Cronjé, and I both signed that agreement.

Next Friday, as a result of a partnership with Showtime Promotion, where we have a junior boxing enrichment programme, which is getting a lot of results, for the first time as part of the Women's Month celebration, there will be an international women's boxing tournament. An invitation is extended to all hon members of this House to attend that

function, and if you indicate that you want to attend, we will make sure that you get televised coverage, because the tournament, the Women's Boxing Tournament, is going to be televised.

This Sunday, as a result of an arrangement between the Umhlatuze Municipality and my department, we want to take football enrichment throughout the province. Amazulu will be playing Manzini Stars, a team from across the border in Swaziland. We are making it possible to ensure that throughout the length and breadth of the province we have these soccer enrichment programmes.

This evening, also at the ICC, we have a farewell reception of a team from Umlazi that has been identified to be so talented that they are going to Brazil. So, in the past 12 to 24 months, many teams, many individuals, in many codes of sport, have been identified as rising future great stars in the international arena and have left the shores of South Africa, sometimes with the support of municipalities, the national Department of Sport and Recreation and the provincial Department of Sport and Recreation.

Six weeks ago at Nseleni we had the most wonderful, the finest indigenous game we have ever had in this province, in which all the district municipalities participated. We have selected our provincial team to take part in the SA Indigenous Games at the end of the year. That programme is more or less complete.

Last Saturday we had an excellent rural horse-riding festival, and the interesting part of that festival was that for the first time we had other provinces participating at their request - Mpumalanga and the Eastern Cape participated - and I am going to suggest to the national Minister that we make this a South African event.

We are ready for the SA Games. We have enriched the various sports federations. Our team is undergoing selection. We are training our coaches. At Newcastle - I will give you the date - there is going to be an official send-off of the provincial team. My mandate to them is to make sure that we restore KwaZulu-Natal as the number one province.

Sir, I have travelled the length and breadth of our province, right from Ndumo in the north to Glencoe and to Ugu in the south, to ensure that we have sports programmes to ensure that the sports federations are restructured at least along district lines. I can report that when we were at Gamalakhe, we handed over 34 completed sport facilities,

and that is one of the flagship programmes of the South African national Department of Sport and Recreation, with an Olympic size swimming pool at Gamalakhe.

One of the flagship projects which have been mandated to all the provinces was mass school sports. I will give the details later in my speech. However, I want to say that our national Minister, Rev Dr M Stofile, stated in the National Assembly that he is proud of the fact that the best performing Department of Sport and Recreation in the whole country is KwaZulu-Natal. It is recorded in Hansard.

Now, we have strategic goals - I am not going to go into all the details - but I just want to mention that one strategic goal, amongst others, is to promote, transform and develop sport and recreation to address the issues of nation-building and quality of life. In this respect we have many strategic objectives, and one of the strategic objectives is to ensure participation and sustainable development of sport and recreation, with an emphasis towards disadvantaged communities.

I make an appeal to all hon members in this House, not only to the hon members of the portfolio committee, to assist us in ensuring enrichment. We do not only want to ensure enrichment and participation in school sport for one day or one week in a year. We want to ensure that there is sustainable participation. In this respect we were given an additional mandate by the national Government this year to have a programme called Club Development. We have commenced properly and effectively with our Club Development programme.

Infrastructure development is very, very important. In addition to what I have stated and what has been completed and what has been delivered, and here too, of all the nine provinces, we have delivered 100% of our goals as far as the provision of amenities and facilities is concerned. We have had 15 site inspection reports on the table during the first quarter and the department has also put into place a plan to kickstart our projects next year so that we ensure that during the MTEF period we are properly equipped and properly prepared, that we have a programme to complete 89 facilities in the next three years.

Of course, we have many partnerships with municipalities and in this particular respect I want to say that this is one area in which we have challenges because, whether we want people to play, whether we want the whole nation to play, the question they ask us is

this: Where do we play? I therefore want to identify the lack of funding for infrastructure, the lack of funding for facilities to be a major challenge.

Our Mass Participation Programme is one of the important flagship programmes of the SA government as a result of the declaration of the United Nations where we must make every citizen of our country, every citizen of our province, active. This year we have increased the hubs from 24 to 64. The president of KZN Athletics told me that when we had the SA National Cross-country Championship in Newcastle two weeks ago, they saw the results of our Mass Participation Programme. Our hubs were alive, kicking and active and I want to say we are firing on all cylinders when it comes to sports and recreation in this province - in every square metre, in every district council area. We are firing on all cylinders. We have 640 youths already employed and they are being paid to target half a million.

I have made reference to school sports. This Saturday there is a launch of a sport enrichment programme where 1 926 educators from 321 secondary schools are going to be at the Coastlands Convention Centre. Possibly our national Minister Stofile will be there. They are going to be coached, undergo specialised training in soccer, netball, volleyball, cricket, athletics and rugby, and the launch of the new clusters and schools in the province will take place on 8 September 2007 at Ladysmith. We hope to have 18 schools, 500 learners and 100 educators there.

I must say that our Mass School Sport Programme is progressing well. I did indicate that Minister Stofile was so pleased that he always likes to come to KwaZulu-Natal. This will be confirmed by our very, very active and diminutive chairperson of our portfolio committee.

I have made reference to indigenous games. The interest in indigenous games is so strong and so wonderful that there is a move to have an All Africa Indigenous Games and also to have an indigenous competition between Africa and the Red Indians of the United States of America.

I have made reference to rural horseriding. We are getting a lot of assistance from Gold Circle. On Saturday at 13:20 at the Gold Cup, between the third and fourth races, there will be a display of rural horseriding. We are so proud of our riders that we are going to create a special component to develop traditional Zulu horseriding. If you look at the

DSTV channel, horses played a very, very important role in the development of communities and in the development of nations in the past thousand years. I am very, very proud of the excellent performance of our traditional Zulu horse riders.

Of course, in keeping with our Women's Day celebration, we had the National Rural Girls' Sport Festival at Utrecht recently. Our department arranged a provincial team and we had a total of 700 females from the rural areas of KwaZulu-Natal who were participating.

We also have a structure called South African Women in Sport and Recreation. We have these programmes at district level. We are going to have the provincial game and we want the provincial portfolio committee to be very, very involved with the women's boxing next Friday. They must be there. I will get the chairperson in the boxing ring before the start of the fight, and she will have a chance to give a message to the whole country.

I now want to get back to football. We are very, very proud that SASCOC, the overall controlling body in this country, has issued an instruction to every federation to restructure along municipal lines. The first stage is along district lines. We have assisted SAFA to restructure. They have restructured along district lines. We have given them support services, but I am very, very happy with the soccer enrichment programme in our province. I want to applaud the efforts of our *amakhoji*, our House of Traditional Leaders, our district municipalities and our local municipalities.

Our problem is support services. The national Minister indicated that we must give them support services by way of management training, skills development, coaching, etc. We have had international coaches coaching courses, and many of them have passed the coaching courses. There is a partnership between the British Council and our departments at provincial and national level, where we have a Fair Play Programme in partnership with the British government.

I have seen a programme on BBC where people from Europe and the Middle East all say that in terms of their soccer enrichment programmes over the next 20 years, the supply continent will be Africa. If you look at Europe and the United Kingdom, the message is that the emerging powerhouse of sport and the emerging powerhouse of soccer is Africa.

When you look at the qualitative nature of our development, our appeal is to increase the number of clubs and the number of participants, and to make sure that we have sustainable, continuous participation. That is why we have this partnership with Mass School Sport. We have some 400 associations that are crying out for help, and the minimum we require next year for the soccer enrichment programme is about R20 million. I am very, very glad.

In our capacity building, as far as soccer is concerned, 457 referees were trained in the basic referees' qualification. A further 120 coaches were qualified according to SAFA's introductory coaching certificate. Some 60 SAFA Level One coaches were qualified at a course conducted by SAFA National. One hundred and fifty administrators from the numerous local football associations were trained in a course conducted by the Provincial Sport Academy, headed by a very, very active sports administrator called Mr Alex Khosana.

I have already made reference to women's participation in sport. As part of our celebration of women, the department will host 83 different sports programmes involving 15 852 women in 11 of our districts as part of Women's Month. We have done the preparatory work at local council level and now we are going to have the provincial programme and they will go into next month as part of the women's programme.

I have made reference to the international boxing tournament also, but also I want to say that we have a very, very strong enrichment programme called "Baby Champs". We are helping them throughout and in every code of sport we have a partnership of sport federations.

I want to give a message that in the next few years the Sharks will have blacks. Our development programme with KZN Rugby is going so strong that four of our development programme players are now playing for the Sharks and quite a few of them, on merit, are knocking at the door.

In cricket we also have thousands and thousands of youngsters who are in the nursery and in the next three years we should see the results.

I want to thank one of my colleagues, Inkosi Ndaba, for the outstanding leadership he is providing in respect of the enrichment of sport in his particular area.

Federations are very, very important. We do not run sport. We do not have our own sport programmes. We provide support services to federations and they make sure that the money we utilise is spent wisely. We protect the interests of the taxpayer. As I said earlier on, the South African government has identified that club development is of the utmost importance and that is why we are making an appeal to all schools to make sure that learners become members of clubs so that they can continue participating in a sustainable way. Schools must form clubs, and our job is to provide support services.

As I said in this Chamber, no person in this province will be deprived of participation in sport on the grounds of poverty. Six hundred people from the rural areas qualified to participate in the Comrades Marathon. They would not have been able to take part in the marathon if we did not help them.

We had 600 females from rural areas who qualified to take part in the Spar Marathon, and they qualified because we provided them with the necessary support services. We have given support services to inter-provincial athletics, inter-provincial volleyball and inter-provincial cricket. In every sphere we are providing assistance and support services to rising stars from the rural areas and also from the disadvantaged communities. When Spurs played Chiefs, our department and two municipalities made it possible for 1 000 youngsters to go and watch the match. When we had the inter-provincial athletics, we made it possible for 1 000 youngsters to have competitive events at Kings Park Athletic Stadium. It was such a wonderful sight. These youngsters who came here barefoot, did not come as spectators. They participated. My message to them is: Be involved in sport every day. Be involved in sport on a continuous basis.

We have major events, and I want to make an appeal to municipalities. Sport must be conducted by sport federations and, therefore, because of those ladies who were having this major cycling event, I made sure that that cycling event is now under the Cycling Federation. The Midmar Mile now falls under Swimming South Africa. We have given Swimming South Africa support services now that the World Swimming Cup has come back to this country. We said: Have it in KwaZulu-Natal. Have it in Durban. It is going to be in Durban at the end of the year.

We have transformed the Comrades Marathon. The Comrades Marathon is mixed. I may tell you that some of the senior technical officials are not white. The senior

timekeeper at the Comrades Marathon is not a white. He is not an Indian. He is not a coloured. He is a black educator. We trained him and he is respected throughout Africa. All our officials are respected throughout Africa.

The Spar Ladies Race, of course, is the biggest ladies race and the First Lady of KwaZulu-Natal is always the guest of honour. However, in September we are having the greatest showpiece in South Africa, namely the SA Games. I want to report to the House that we are prepared. All the codes and all the federations are taking part. We have had workshops. We have had skills development. We have had coaching clinics. The provincial academy now takes over. We are spending about R4 million. We are equipping the team, and I invite my hon colleagues to come to Newcastle on the day we will give them a grand farewell, so that they can come back to be the number one province in the country.

We also have the provincial/national Schools Athletic Championships. We also have the national/provincial Bowling Championships. The Spar National Netball Tournament takes place in eThekweni in a few weeks' time. We are giving support services. We are helping the various districts to enrich netball, to select the team and to make sure that they have proper structures.

As far as the Para-Olympic Swimming Championships is concerned in the world, we have given them support services and skills training. I am very, very proud of the fact that they come back with gold. Our disability sport component is very, very important.

As far as our staff is concerned, I want to say that we have 53% females. We have balanced equity as far as various race groups are concerned, but we have a shortage of officials and that is ... [Time expired.]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon MEC, your time has expired.

MR A RAJBANSI (MEC for Sport and Recreation): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I have given quite a few details out in written form. I am sure when we have the debate, hon members will respond and fire on all cylinders at the MEC for Sport and Recreation who can fire right back at them with compound interest, if necessary. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, we thank the hon MEC for assuring this House that the province and the country are ready for 2010, amongst other things. We

also thank the hon MEC for assuring us that schools and young people are joining these clubs. From where I am sitting, I am happy to report to you, hon MEC, that in SKISA Karate we have enrolled a number of youngsters as karatekas, and we ask for your support very, very urgently.

Having said that, hon members, I want to make an announcement at the request of the hon Chief Whip of the Legislature. We have been joined in the House by senior citizens sitting in the gallery. They are all women from Zibambeleni Old-Age Home in KwaDabeka near Pinetown. They have been invited to mark the beginning of Women's Month with the Legislature, and they are here for the item on our Order Paper which will take place in the afternoon. I am referring to a debate on the motion in celebration of August as Women's Month.

By the same token, I also wish to acknowledge and welcome my daughter, Nqobile Ndabandaba. She is sitting in the gallery and she is coming for the same mission, the afternoon debate.

8.4 Debate on NADECO Motion

This House noting:

The decline in food production from farming activities;

The issues on land utilisation and ownership in this province;

The importance of agriculture in job creation in the SADC Region, and

The extent of poverty in KZN and poverty-related diseases.

Therefore resolves:

To take a fresh look at land utilization and land ownership in KZN.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, we shall have this debate have until 13:00, after which we will adjourn for lunch. We will then continue after lunch. I now have the honour of calling upon the mover of the motion ... I have a problem here, hon members, I notice that the mover is the hon Rev A H Mbatha, but I do not see the hon member in the House. I do not know whether Professor Maphalala can assist the House.

PROF J S MAPHALALA (NADECO): Hon Speaker, ubizwe nje manje, into ephuthumayo la e-ofisi. Angazi noma ngingambiza na?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: We would appreciate it if you could call him.

PROF J S MAPHALALA (NADECO): Kusho ukuthini lokho Somlomo? Kusho ukuthi iNADECO ayisekho?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Shandu, when I was a professor, I did not like students who tried to bunk my lectures. [Laughter] You can continue for 10 minutes.

REV A H MBATHA (NADECO): My apologies, Mr Speaker. Sir, food security is fundamental to building a healthy and productive nation in our country. Poverty and other needs have consequences which undermine national food security. Food is not readily accessible to our people. [*Ringing of mobile phone*] [Laughter] My apologies, Mr Speaker. [Laughter]

These problems manifest themselves in pathologies such as the types of diseases that we witness today, which are related to hunger and malnutrition, but also the high crime rate. Now, our objective is that, among the strategies for promoting food security, we need to get sustainable land reform through efficient utilisation of agricultural land. A number of communities are regaining access to agricultural land through land reform programmes. However, not enough is being done to empower them so that they can farm and farm effectively. Oftentimes they take over food producing farms from previous land owners, but lack the requisite skills for the efficient utilisation of those farms. They also lack resources needed to continue to produce at optimum levels.

Ngithanda ukuzwakalisa ukuthi namhlanje kuthina bantu beNadeco kulilungelo elihle ukuthi siphonse leli litshe esivivaneni. Ngokwezibalo zenhlangano ye-Race relations, 28 out of 47 districts and six metropolitan municipalities have poverty levels above 50%. KZN has 51,1% of people living in poverty. Kuyo yonke imali esiyitholayo enkulu ivela lapho siqashwe khona u- 52.9%. Bese kuthi evela emkhiqizweni wezolimo kube kuphela u-0.8%. Akukho okuncane okwedlula lokhu okutholakala kwezolimo ezinye izizwe zakhona lapha kuleli lizwe lakithi okungenani ezolimo zikhqizela u-1.1%, ngokuba zona zikwazi ukukwenza kangcono bese kuthi-ke maqondana nemali ezizithola ngokusebenza ngokuqashwa zona zithole u-74% ongenayo, empeleni u-74.4%

ongenayo ngokuqashwa.

Okwenza ukuba Deputy Speaker, ngiqale ngokukhomba lama qiniso kungenxa yokuthi iNadeco ibona ukuthi indaba ye-food security ifanele engabe ibhekkelwe kakhulu kunendlela ebhekkelwe ngayo namhlanje. Ikakhulukazi ekusetshenzisweni komhlaba. Sizogcina nathi lapha KwaZulu-Natali sesondliwa ngamabhontshisi ase-Russia, sondliwe futhi ngenyama evela e-Australia. Sondliwe ngombila osehahlul'inkomo zamaMelikana. Bese kuthi ngoba uhulumeni wamaMelikana ukusukumele kakhulu lolu daba lokukhiqizwa kwezolimo, anikeze ama-subsidies ezolimo, amise izinhlangano ezilekelela emhlabeni njengalapha kithi i-Africare. Bese lezi zinhlangano ziqasha amaMelikana ngisho zilapha kwelakithi izwe ngoba phela uMelikana ufanele alandele idola lakubo nolwazi lwakubo oluvela kwezomhlaba ngisho sekwenziwa lapha eNingizimu Afrika nezwekazi lase Afrika.

Somlomo ngicela ukuthi uhulumeni wethu abe nohlelo olucacile nolunesikhathi izinto eziyakwenzeka ngazo ukuze sikhiqize ngomhlaba ngoba yiyo yodwa into esinayo lapha e-Afrika esingeyephucwe ngoba ngisho sekukhona abasephuca saze sabaleka kwaze kwafika lapho bewubuyisela khona umhlaba. Nginovalo-ke Somlomo ukuthi aya ngokuya amasimu angakhiqizi lutho. Isibonelo sami sise-Blood River lapho khona umlimi wakhona ubefuye izinkomo ezinhle elima kuphume omningi ummbila ogcwalisa ama-sailors akhona lapho kodwa ngibe sengibona esenela amasimu. Nxa ngimbuza ukuthi kwenziwa yini nezinkomo zakhe zingasafani njengoba zazinjalo, uthi, ipulazi lakhe lilindelwe ukuba lithengwe nguhulumeni bese linikezwa iSilo. Ngize ngazi-ke ukuthi kuliqiniso kangakanani lokho kodwa into engiyishoyo ukuthi angiboni ukuthi ukuthenga kukahulumeni ethengela iSilo ipulazi noma indawo kuhlangele nani nokungalimi ummbila ube ungumkhiqizo ophilisayo kuleyo ndawo.

Abalimi bommbila bezwakalise kulo leli viki ukuthi bakhathazekile ngokuthi ummbila okhiqizwa kuleli zwe awusenele ukudliwa ngabantu bakithi. Lokho kusho ukuthi inani lommbila nelemphuphu lizokhuphuka. Abantu bazoya ngokuya belamba behluleka futhi ukuthenga ukudla le nto yenza ukuba ngibone ukuthi impilo yethu isengcupheni yokuthi ngelinye ilanga kubheduke indlala ebangelwa ubuncane bommbila ovuniwe bese kukhuphuka kakhulu amanani. Sisengcupheni yokuthi abantu abasebenza kwezolimo bagcina bengasenawo umsebenzi. Ngiya ngokuya ngibona abantu ababengabalimi sebeqashwe nguhulumeni kungekho muntu owangena walipha lapho lo muntu ayelima

khona. Umbuzo wami ngukuthi ngubani oholela lo mlimi osephenduke isisebenzi sikahulumeni. Abuye amondle ngokudla okungasakhiqizwa lapho ayekhiqiza khona.

Ngibona mina indlala ingumphumela wokwehluleka kwethu ukuqikelela ukuba umhlabathi ulinywe ukhiqize ukudla ngokwenzenjalo abantu bathole umsebenzi. Ngisho nabantu baseMozambique, baseZimbabwe, baseSwazini, baseLesotho, emapulazini amaningi aseNingizimu noMgungundlovu kugcwele abasebenzi abavela eLesotho ngoba kunezizathu. Yebo, kodwa ngithi ukwehluleka kwethu ukuthuthukisa ezolimo kuyingozi enkulu yokusabalalisa ububha nendlala okungumphumela wakho kungubugebengu, ukweba izinkomo, ukukhuthuza nokwanda kwezifo ezidalwa ukungondleki kwabantu kahle ngenxa yokudla okungenamsoco. Alikho izwe Somlomo, ngiyaphinda ngithi alikho izwe elingavumela ukuba akubalalwe amasimu kuphele izimbuzi nezimvu, kuphele izinkomo, kuphenduke kulotsholwe nezitofu ezikhundleni zezinkomo. Umnotho wonke uguquke sibhekile siwubona uphenduke uye entshonalanga ngakho konke ukuze singaphinde sithi nyaka ngaphandle kwamazwe aphesheya. Size sondliwe pho ngokudla okukhiqizwa emazweni azingwadule ngenxa yokuthi ohulumeni bakhona baba nombono omude nohlakaniphile. Kanti sokhululeka nini thina sizazi ukuba sinoMongameli owondliwa ukudla noNdunankulu owondliwa ukudla kwethu, singasho ukuthi ucela iphalishi ku-Brown ukuze athole ukudla ekuseni.

Yihlazo uMongameli noNdunankulu weSifudandazwe adle ukudla okuqhamuka eNgilandi! Isiqhingi sezwe! Namhlanje ngizokhalela isizwe sakithi ukuthi ukudla akuphinde kuvele emhlabathini wase-Afrika ononile nobusisiwe. Lapho khona siphonsa uhlamvu kuvumbuke isithombo. Sikhahlele isithombo sidle, hhayi ukuthi amasimu aphenyuke amahlandla angadliwa lutho ngoba nemfuyo ingasekho ngenxa yamasela. Umfana womu-Afrika okhulela esifundeni sase-Afrika nxa ezothi emncane ayosebenza engadini yankosikazi womlungu, atshale utshani nezimbali ngoba elambile, intombazane yase-Afrika ikhula ifunde ukuthi kufanele ukuyosebenza ekhishini lonkosikazi womlungu, kuyoba isizwe esinjani lesi esikhululekile sangomusa.

Ngigcina Somlomo ngezindawo ezibuyiselwa khona lapha ngama-land claims esizitholayo. Asingenziwa inhlekisa ezweni njengoba ngishilo ngisakhuluma ngesiNgisi. Singabanini balezi zindawo kuthi nxa sekungeyethu ngoba thina owethu uhulumeni kasizimuntu nge-subsidy njengokuba kwakwenza lowo owasentshonalanga nowamaBhunu owayengaphambili bese kuvela ukuthi ngonyaka wokuqala leli pulazi

lingelabantu konke kuphenduke kube bomvu klebhu ngenxa yokuthi akanamali yokufaka umanyolo. Ngenxa yokuthi abazi nokuthi kufanele ufakelweni. Bonke abantu abebethi bazakuziphilisa baphenduke ondingasithebeni bahambe bayosebenza eGoli bayofesa emafemini ngoba umhlaba bawu-claim-a bawuthola ungabasizi lutho sebewutholile ngoba kungekho muntu obelekelelayo.

Ngiyoba ngonile nxa ngingezekwalisanga lapha eNdlini namuhla njengomuntu waKwaZulu-Natali ukuthi ukungakhiqizwa kommbila owanele, obudliwa ngabantu baKwaZulu-Natali namabhontshisi, nezinkomo, nezimvu, nezimbuzi, nezinkukhu nokunye abantu bakithi abaphila besimama ngakho, kulihlazo lokuthi siqhamuka nosizwana oluncane, uzakukhuluma uNgqongqoshe ntambama, kuzothiwa kusizwa abalimi abafufusayo kusizwa ama-co-ops, kusizwa abantu aba-organised, kushiwo abantu asebekhona. Wenzani uhulumeni ukuze babe khona labo bantu? Wenzani uhulumeni ukuze kutholakale ukudla okungadliwa ngabantu? Liphi isu elithi isizwe siyosilandela, isizukulwane siyosilandela siyobe sisenokudla okwanele kule lizwe lakithi? Hhayi amasu okwelekelela abantu asebevelile abagcina be-frustrated babe milkidated baphume kwi-system yezolimo. Ngincengela namhlanjena ukuba kube khona isu elikhulu kunonaka abantu asebeyiveze bona. Ngincengela futhi ukuba kube khona isimo lapho kuyoba khona ukudla okwanele ukuze siqale lapho-ke ukukhuluma ngomnotho.

Siqale lapho-ke ukukhuluma ngokuthi siyisizwe ngokwethu, sifuna ulwimi lwethu, sifuna amasikwethu, sifuna umculo wethu, sifuna... uma singenakho ukudla ngiqinisile sophenduka izigqila zafuthifuthi kuze kube nini! Ngiyabonga Somlomo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Eeh sibonge ilungu elihloniphekile... uMfundisi uMthiya ngokusiqwashisa ukuthi intengane singayixosha kanjani. The next speaker will be the hon J H Slabbert ... vir 10 minute [*for 10 minutes*].

MR J H SLABBERT (ANC): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I want to thank the hon Rev Mbatha for bringing this motion before the House. These are very important and burning issues, and he is very fortunate that he did not actually miss the train! [Laughter]

Agriculture is without any doubt an important sector for the South African economy for its impact on job creation, rural development and food security. Current estimates indicate that primary agriculture, which refers to high level production, accounts for only four 4% of the GDP. However, the contribution of the sector is more significant when the input

and processing sectors are also considered.

Commercial farming plays a dominant role in the agricultural sector. However, small and emerging farmers are also important because of their impact on poverty reduction and job creation, especially in the rural areas. A major role played by government is to create an environment that is conducive to the development and growth of the sector. It is there to implement policies and farm support systems.

Food security is a major priority for government, given the large numbers of rural and urban poor. Poor people in South Africa spend most of their money on food and that is why they are very vulnerable to fluctuations in food prices.

The production of maize is effected by fluctuations in climate and market conditions. The emerging and developing agriculture sector is also constrained by the lack of available land, water and quality technical support services. I think I have said enough to prove that it is clear how important farming and farmers - big and small - are, because they are the ones who have to fill the food baskets of the country.

By now everyone knows about the devastating veld fires in the Wakkerstroom, Utrecht, Dumbe and also other areas in KZN. This is a time to take hands, to stand together and to support each other. It is sad and shocking to say that five people died during these veld fires. Thousands of hectares of plantation were destroyed. Thousands of animals, sheep cattle and game burned to death. One farmer had to shoot 400 sheep to relieve them of their suffering after they had been burned beyond recovery.

I am very thankful to the hon MEC for Welfare, Dr Radebe, who visited the bereaved families in that area. On Monday this week, two of our MECs, the hon Mabaykhulu and the hon Mtholephi Mthimkhulu, also went to Dumbe where we then met. It had been arranged by the departments that the hon MECs would with the farming community at their call centre which was to serve as the venue. Thereafter they were going to meet the affected family members of the broader community in that municipal office. Unfortunately the mayor of Dumbe hijacked all the arrangements. [Interjections] That was still acceptable, but what was really shocking and unacceptable was what the mayor basically said to hon MEC Mthimkhulu, after landing. He said that he [the mayor] was not a racist, but that he [the mayor] felt nothing for white farmers and that he [the MEC] should not meet with the farmers. [Interjections] The farmers then sent a person to

represent them at the municipal office where the mayor repeated what he had said - in front of everybody in the Council Chamber, from his mayoral chair!

AN HON MEMBER: He said what?

MR J H SLABBERT (ANC): He also stopped the ...

AN HON MEMBER: What did he say?

MR J H SLABBERT (ANC): You want to hear it again? [Laughter] He also stopped the person from showing slides of damaged houses and dead animals, saying he was not interested in seeing those slides. When he was given the opportunity to respond, the farmers' representative merely said that he was speechless.

Mr Speaker, this mayor is clearly not suitable for his that position. In fact, he is a great embarrassment for the IFP, for the people of Dumbé and for South Africa as a whole. I really think the IFP should send him on a holiday. Give him a single ticket to some unknown destination. [Laughter] For a mayor of a town, who is supposed to serve the whole community, to behave in this way during such difficult times, is incredible. Like I said, we should stand together and support each other. He deserves nothing more than just that - a single ticket away from here!

To come back to farming and producing of food, it is common knowledge that in the traditional areas especially, it is mostly cattle and maize farming. The planting of maize has its normal problems, as has already been pointed out. However, cattle-farming is also becoming increasingly difficult because of the high rate of stock theft. This is a very real problem. A week ago 12 goats in a certain area were stolen from a poor emerging farmer. They were recovered the next day, just to be stolen again the day after.

Everyone who is a farmer knows that when it is full moon - oh, you know what a full moon is - stock thieves are active because they can easily see at night how to drive the cattle, where they can hide them in some or other bush for a day and then move further on the next night. You also get cases where stolen livestock are transported by road. That is why I say that we need legislation to the effect that no livestock should be transported by road after dark. I want this to happen, together with a few other issues, to go hand in hand with such legislation. We had legislation before, but it taken away by the previous government before 1994. The reason for doing such a stupid thing will never be

known. However, I am convinced that with legislation like that, stock theft will go down drastically. Just talk to the elderly policemen in the rural areas. They will know exactly what I am talking about and they will welcome such legislation.

I want to conclude by addressing the issue of land claims that drag on for years. One asks oneself: Is it really necessary that such burning issues must take that long? I know about many farmers who are waiting for claims to be finalised so that they and also other people involved can get on with their lives. This is a real burning issue, and I think special attention must be given to this matter. People who keep on delaying and delaying are playing with fire. Time is running out. I thank you, sir.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Baie dankie, agb Slabbert, vir u toespraak. [*Thank you very much, hon Slabbert, for your speech.*] Our next speaker will be the hon Prof J S Maphalala, uSolwazi, who will be given six minutes.

PROF J S MAPHALALA (NADECO): Ngiyabonga Somlomo, Sekela Somlomo. Umgomo omkhulu weqembu leNadeco ukuba kube khona imindeni eqotho eyondlekile nehloniphekile. Loku kungenzeka kuphela uma abantu bakith besizwa ngendlela ehlelekile ukuthi bakhiqize ukudla ukuze bondle izingane zabo nabo bazondle. Udaba lobunikazi bomhlaba nokusetshenziswa komhlaba nje luyindida nempicabadala eSifundazweni saKwaZulu-Natali. Ezindabeni zakusihlwa izolo kuvele ukuthi isifundazwe sethu sihamba phambili ekusaleleni emuva ekunikezeni abantu imihlaba yabo abaqolwa yona. Ezindabeni zakusihlwa izolo. Lokhu kuyamangaza futhi kuyindida ngoba i-Land Boundary Commission kaMartin West ya 1846, ayigagazanga uma isiqedumsebenzi yawo, yadudulela bonke abantu emeveni, emgubaneni nasemaweni lapho izizwe zabantu abamnyama namakhosi abahleli khona sikhuluma nje bephufumela nzima. Zonke izindawo ezivundile nezisemanzini, lezo zindawo ezinjalo zanikezwa abantu abangiye ngisho u-10% ukuba bahlale kuzo, lapho umlungu eyedwa wayenepulazi eliwu-3000 morgen of land emunye. Kusemlandweni akusiyo into eyisimangaliso.

Kuyamangalisa ukuthi inciciyela yalokhu kufanele kubuyiselwe kubantu kube usizo nomqansa ongakaze ubonwe. Akukhulunywa nalena ye-1846, siyazi ukuthi iqala ku-1913. Enyakatho yoThukela noMzinyathi, eNyakatho yomfula uThukela noMzinyathi, nokwenzeka eningizimu yoThukela noMzinyathi ukuthi yonke indawo okuthiwa isizwe

somuntu uthole imoto ngeke ikhuphuke ingagingqika ilimaze abantu. Nakhona ngeke nanini ize ithuthuke, ama-26 pieces of land layo okwakuthiwa i-Home Land yaKwaZulu. Okwakungeke noma kuthanda ukuthi ingaphucuka. Ingakho kwakulusizi imgubane nani, ukuguguleka kwenhlabathi, lonke usizi, izifo nakho konke kukhona.

Enyakatho yoThukela noMzinyathi, siyazi ukuthi i-Zululand Lands Delimitation Commission ka-Charles Saunders ya-1902-1904, yenza okufanayo. Ngakho iyabadudula abantu bonke yababeka emahlathini nasemgubaneni naphezu kwamatshe ezintabeni, zonke izizwe zabantu abamnyama zilapho uma sikhuluma nje. Usizi nokukhala nokugedla kwamazinyo. Ngeke ulime, ngeke wenzeni, imfuyo iyafa, kuxhonxeleno kuyabila. Akukhulunywa ngakho namhlanje siyazi ukuthi kuqala ku-1913 uma kukhulunywa ngendaba yezwe kodwa sithi-ke yini kube wumqansa ukulungisa yona leyo ngcosana. Siyazi ukuthi lokhu kukwi-Constitution, ithi i-Constitution kuqala ku-1913. Lolu sizi olule abaxhobelane bafe bayoba yimvuthu le phezu. [laughing] Wena Gcabashe uzikhulumela okwakho.

Manje usizi-ke bakithi lulapho ukuthi imihlaba yabe isiguguleka. Uma iguguleka banda abantu bazala abantu, bayazala abantu baKwaZulu. 56% Wabantu abahlala kulezi zindawo, yibo-ke laba abahlala emgubaneni, yibo-ke labo abaswele amanzi, yibo-ke laba abaswele ugesi. Siyazama, siyazama, siyazama.

Akukho ukuzama, siyabona sinamehlo! Akubonakale indlela eya phambili. INadeco uma ikhipha lesi siphakamiso beyenzela ukuthi abantu ke ba-debate ngeqiniso, ngento yokufa nokuphila.

Yiloko Sekela likaSomlomo okufanele kulungiswe. Kufanele wonke amalungu ale Ndlu ame ngezinyawo ezwe kahle ukuthi yini ebamba ukuthi luhambe kancane uhlelo, lungasho ukuthi akulungiswe leya ndaba ye-Land Boundary Commission ka 1836, olungasho ukuthi akulungiswe iZululand Lands Delimitation ya-1902 -1904. Kodwa oluthi lokho okuncane okwakuthathiwe, singakafiki-ke ekusizeni abantu bakithi asebethollile lokhu abakutholile. Kunosizi futhi kukhona ukujamelana uma sebetholile abantu, abalutholi usizo kuthiwa abazi bazowa, nangempela kube khona ukujabulela ukuthi abawe labo abathole lesi siqephu somhlaba.

Uma uya le ngaseNkwalini abantu abathole umhlaba abasizwa muntu abanjani, ama-olintshi abo ashwabene. Konke ngoba abazi akekho ozobasiza. Kuthiwa, ehhe!

NIngalungisa umhlaba! Ingani nawu eniwunikiwe uyanehlula bantu enangingeke nize... [Inaudible] ... umhlaba nikwazi ukuwusebenzisa nina ngoba naku nasi isibonelo. Lawa mapulazi amabili anikeziwe anihlulile! Manje amalungu ahloniphekile ale Ndlu kuzozwakala ukuthi athini-ke wona amalungu ahloniphekile akule Ndlu labo abangama-Afrika. Sizobezwa namhlanje ukuthi bathini ngale ndaba yokuthi ngeke umhlaba unehlulile kodwa alukho futhi uhlelo lokusifundisa. Nobody was born wise. Knowledge is acquired! [Time expired] [Laughter]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, order! We thank the hon speaker, Solwazi Maphalala, for promoting the use of our mother-tongue, isiZulu. Keep up the good work, hon Solwazi. Teach our children how to speak isiZulu. Our next speaker, according to the amended list, will not be the hon Mrs Thakur-Rajbansi. It will be the hon Mr A Rajbansi for five minutes.

MR A RAJBANSI (MF): Thank you, Mr Speaker. Our hon President quite correctly said that the market in the South African situation will never be kind to poor people. The national Minister of Housing said that we need to re-examine the willing-seller, willing-buyer principle, and I hope at the ANC adopted that at their policy conference.

I am glad that NADECO has brought this motion, because the national Minister of Finance, while delivering his budget speech, made a very depressing comment about the contribution of agriculture to our GDP. In a situation like this, in a developing country where you have come out of an old era and into a new era, the saviour of your country, the creator of jobs, the greatest remover of poverty is your agrarian revolution.

What we have been having in Africa is an agrarian revolution in theory only. Now, concern has been expressed over the past 40 years about the rise in the world's population and the crisis in food production. UNESCO has also released a very encouraging report. According to this report, Africa can save the world as far as its food requirements are concerned. If agriculture is developed and forests on five degrees around the equator throughout the world are removed, we will have enough land for food production for twice the population of the world as at 2010 AD.

China, India and Brazil are going to outstrip the G8 countries very soon, because agriculture contributes 40% of their GDP. If you take the provincial governments of India into consideration – and I am not encouraging the SA Communist Party - the states that

are controlled by the communists, contribute 60% of agriculture to the GDP. There is 100% literacy and no unemployment. There is no unemployment.

When we had a struggle in this country after the obnoxious 1913 Land Act which put everything in balance along racial lines, we said that the struggle of the peasants, the emancipation of our peasants must be our highest priority. In this respect we should all unite and agree that agriculture should now be put on the high road.

I have often come across people who underestimate black farmers. In the first few years after the whites came to this country there were agricultural shows in the Eastern Province and in KwaZulu-Natal. Black farmers came out of the rural areas, from the unknown, with their products and they won top prizes in agricultural shows for their products. Like I have said in my earlier debate, if you take horsemanship, the Zulus were the greatest horsemen in the world, but people did not recognise them as such. So, what we must do is make sure that there is a proper distribution of land - not willy-nilly distribution of land, but distribution of land to the people who will make the land work.

Now, let me give you another example. There was a very interesting programme on TV3 this morning. They interviewed the managing director of Woolworths on organic food production and on agriculture in general. I think hon members should get copies of that DVD and see how they are preparing this country for the future.

If we can have smallholdings, why can a school not have agricultural projects?

HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR A RAJBANSI (MF): I have seen schools with tunnel farming, making R8 000 a month profit just by growing cucumbers. Why can we not have permaculture? Let's stop making excuses.

HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR A RAJBANSI (MF): Just look at the tiny state of Punjab in India which produces food for 1, 3 billion people. [Time expired.]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: We thank the hon member for his contribution. I would also add that the Zulus were great blacksmiths, as well. Our next speaker will be the hon Mrs

Downs, for four minutes.

MRS J M DOWNS (ACDP): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am not a great expert on agriculture and land usage and so on, but I have to say that generally speaking the outlines and the discussion that we have had so far, for me, has been very fruitful.

One of the things that I have a great concern about - and I thought it would be opportune for me to raise it in this debate, particularly as part of a motion which speaks about land usage - is the use of bio-fuels. There has been a huge push towards bio-fuels. If we are going to use sugarcane and those types of crops that are already on the land, I do not have a problem with it. In fact, I support it and I think that we can make a great deal of money out of it.

However, I would just like to caution that some of the countries that are great food producers are now producing bio-fuels instead of food. That is adding overall to world hunger and poverty, and I just think that in KwaZulu-Natal we need to be particularly careful about that. I have heard a lot of talk about bio-fuels being grown and manufactured here in KwaZulu-Natal, and moving towards that type of situation. That is just the first point I would like to make.

The second point I would like to make is that I agree 100% with some of the speakers before me. KwaZulu-Natal has the greatest agricultural potential in South Africa. Also, 53% of people in KwaZulu-Natal have access to land, which is the highest proportion out of any province in South Africa. I really believe that not all of our land is being used as well and as fruitfully as it should be.

Our hon MEC for Agriculture spoke a couple of months ago in doing a report and he talked about, for example, the fact that we have ... I am sorry. It was not the hon MEC for Agriculture. I have just recalled that it was actually the hon Premier. He talked about the fact that we are importing over one billion rand's worth of beef into South Africa. I just want to reiterate the point - because I supported him 100% on this - that our Zulu people are traditionally herders. They know about raising beef stock. All we have to change is a little bit of attitude. Instead of keeping cattle as wealth, we can provide them for meat and so on. Again, we need to do proper land usage so that we do not overgraze and we do not cause erosion. I think it is something that I would like to see a specific focus on,

because I think that it can bring a huge cash economy very quickly into very poor rural areas.

I am going to talk about Kwanganase again. I have made it my mission to talk about the uMkhanyakude area. I have visited it as a constituency in the past couple of months. I spent five days there, and I really believe that when we took the legislature to the people there, we did not completely make good on our promises that we made to the people whom we visited. It is one of the most underdeveloped areas in our province, but it is a prime area for agriculture. Many products can be grown there. What is happening with the cashew programme in that area? Is that being rolled out to more people? It has been a very successful cash crop in Mozambique where people have brought money into a poor rural economy and it is just the type of thing that we need. [Time expired.] Thank you. I fully support the ideals of the NADECO motion.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, our next speaker will be the hon Mr R M Burrows. After the contribution of the hon Mr Burrows, we will adjourn for lunch and come back at 14:00. Hon Mr Burrows, please.

MR R M BURROWS (DA): Thank you, Mr Speaker. This is an opportune moment to remind hon members of an American expression which relates to agriculture, namely: "Stop criticising the farmer with your mouth full." Maybe we will think about this at lunch time, because agriculture is essential to keep us alive. You can go into any shop in this country and buy the food that this country is producing.

What NADECO's motion suggests is that we take a fresh look at land utilisation and land ownership. However, I just want to touch on one or two particular areas before I get to that point. Firstly, the hon Mrs Shameen Thakur-Rajbansi proposed a motion on milk during the sitting before last. Now, it is one of my major concerns that when you look at the agricultural industry as a business, the person who suffers most is the farmer. You actually have to look at the grasping of some supermarkets, in particular. Supermarkets want to use milk as a loss leader to bring people into their supermarkets to sell them other goods and, therefore, because it is a loss leader, they do not pay the farmers enough, and so we do not have high enough milk production. We have to look at it as a business.

Let me also say, we have a decline in food production in this country because this country is becoming increasingly dry. There is a water shortage and I know the government is looking at that.

Let me turn, if I may, to the question of land use and land ownership. I do not want to just focus on the question of the shift of ownership of commercial agricultural land. That has to occur. We agree with the governing party that it has to occur. We simply say that we actually have to look at it from the point of view of how you meet that target.

Regarding the statements made yesterday by Land Affairs: They are not going to meet the target, particularly in this province. Now why is that? Yes, it could be because farmers are demanding too much but, on the other hand, there is a concern - and it has been expressed here today - that negotiations simply do not take place sensibly enough.

I must say, it would have been the intention of my party to keep farmers on the land; redistribute land, but keep farmers on the land. We have said in our policy statement not even a month ago: Look at the land the state owns. I have a figure here and it will shatter you! Right now, outside of conservation areas, the state owns 11,5 million hectares of land in this country! [Interjections] It is about 22%. We all know that you can look in agricultural areas and find that there are farms, owned by the state, lying fallow. Nobody is doing anything with them! What we need is an audit of this land.

I do not hold the ANC guilty. In 1993, before we had our new government, we had 16 Departments of Agriculture. We combined them into one and we redistributed them through the provinces. We have never done an audit of agricultural land and how it can be utilized. We need to look at that.

With due respect, I differ from my colleague, the hon Prof Maphalala. I would revisit the Ingonyama Trust Act of 1993. [Hear, hear] That Act, I believe, is not helping the poor people of this province, and we want to do something to help the poor people. Revisit that issue in terms of land ownership. Let us see whether the concept of dead capital - and I know the hon professor knows about the concept of dead capital - but let's see if it does not apply to the Ingonyama Trust. Here we have people living on land who cannot borrow money against that land. They cannot get a mortgage on that land. In fact, they cannot even put their own money into that. That concept of dead capital is written into

the ASGISA documentation. We actually have to revisit the whole concept of land ownership.

The hon Rajbansi spoke about 40% GDP production. In terms of production of agriculture in this province, I have to tell you that 5,5% of our GDP is agriculture and 8% of our people in formal employment are in agriculture. So, NADECO is quite correct. You also have to look at it in terms of job creation, not just in terms of shifting ownership and title of land. Once you have a farmer, you have to know how many people the farmer is going to employ. That is also desperately important.

You know, we have 6,5 million goats in this country. I would never have believed that we have that many goats. Goats are important but, as I said in one of my previous debates, when I go into a shop and I want to buy goat's cheese, I buy French goat's cheese or goat's cheese from the Western Cape because I cannot buy goat's cheese which comes from KZN! I do not know why. However, if we have got six million goats, surely some of them can be milked and then you can produce cheese.

We have 14 million cattle and, once again, we have dead capital in those cattle, because you are having them, you are building the number of your herd, but you are not selling them off. There is no movement in that.

You know, at the present moment the debt of South African farmers is R35 000 million. That is what farmers currently owe to banks and other organisations. What you do not want to do is change title and to take their debt with you. We actually have to take more money from government and put it into agriculture and, in particular, we have to alleviate poverty. It can be done, I believe, by ensuring that people are trained agriculturally. We have got two or three agricultural schools in this province. It simply is not enough. We need to train young people to go into agriculture, to become farmers, to become skilled and to produce more so that we can have our mouths full when we sit down to lunch.
[Time expired.]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, an invitation has been extended to the aged members of our society from KwaDabeka, as well as those who have accompanied them, to join us for lunch.

Business suspended.

Upon resumption of business:

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, please be seated. I hope you have enjoyed your visit to the “department of culinary expertise.” We now call on the hon Inkosi Ngubane from the IFP to deliberate for 13 minutes. Ndabezitha!

INKOSI N J NGUBANE (IFP): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I would also like to thank NADECO for raising some important issues in this ongoing debate about agriculture and the challenges agriculture experiences in our province. Let us indeed take a fresh look at land utilisation and land ownership in KwaZulu-Natal. The implication - and I derive this from the underlying tone of the motion - is that both the current land utilisation and land ownership in the province hamper food production and permeate the existing social problems. This is, of course, misleading.

When the hon Mr Burrows tackled the issue during the debate and blamed the failure to implement agriculture because of the iNgonyama Trust Act, I really have to disagree with him. I do not think there is any MEC - past and present - who has applied for use of any land under the iNgonyama Trust Act, who was refused to use such land. Therefore, there is nothing wrong with the Act. It is perhaps only the implementation by the department and the farmers. They need to answer that question. There is nothing wrong with the iNgonyama Trust Act.

The IFP believes that the primary reason why agriculture is not performing as it should and, indeed, as it could, given our full potential, is that it has been grossly mismanaged by the KwaZulu-Natal provincial government. The reign of Dr Jabulani Mjwara, now safely over, taught us a crucial lesson about how not to administer developmental programmes in the field of agriculture and environmental affairs in this province.

This is not to say that the existing framework concerning land utilisation, largely tied to the current *status quo* of land ownership, is ideal. However, any contemplation of radical land reform must be informed by common sense or at least by what is happening at present by way of land reform to the north of the Limpopo River.

There is no doubt that Zimbabwe’s colonial distribution of land was unjust and needed urgent redress following nearly two decades of post-colonial procrastination. Land reform was provided for by the binding agreement of the three-month long Lancaster House

Conference in 1979 which nearly failed over land issues. In the end the British agreed to fund land reform on a willing buyer, willing seller principle. Farmers who were unwilling to stay in Zimbabwe were bought out by funds provided by the British to the independent Zimbabwe government.

Let me quote from a recent article by Professor Sam Moyo of Zimbabwe who was the executive director for the Institute for Agrarian Studies in Harare. His article gave some background to Zimbabwe's "fast track" land reform from the government's point of view. Moyo writes, and I quote:

By the late 1980s white individuals and corporate land owners had about 4 000 farms in land holdings, averaging more than 2000 hectares. By the year 2000, policy and laws, markets and international intervention had failed to change this.

Moyo continues, and I quote:

In the same period most blacks were still marginalised. Agricultural production and exports grew, but enriched a few. De-industrialisation, massive retrenchments and wage erosion ensured that a generation of young graduates could not find meaningful jobs. Aspiring black capitalists failed to compete with established white businesses and farmers. Income and wealth inequalities grew. National debt grew, as did dependence on erratic external financial flows and aid.

Let us now consider how these ills have been addressed and resolved by the confiscation of white-owned farms in Zimbabwe. The scale of the drop in farm output, following the expropriation of white-owned farms, has produced wide-spread claims by aid agencies of starvation and famine. However, President Mugabe's expulsion of the international media has prevented a full analysis of the scale of the famine and the resultant deaths.

What is not in dispute is that a country once so rich in agricultural produce that it was dubbed the "bread basket" of Southern Africa, is now struggling to feed its own population and its own people. A staggering 45% of the population is considered malnourished. Foreign tourism has also plummeted, costing tens of millions of dollars a year in lost revenue. This, of course, is not the end of the story.

The virtual collapse in the agricultural sector, hand in hand with the mismanagement and corruption of the Mugabe regime, has spread across the economy. Zimbabwe now has an unemployment rate of 80 percent. Inflation rose from an annual rate of 32% in 1998 to an officially estimated high of 4 530% in May 2007, a state of hyper-inflation. At the same time the IMF predicted a rate of 6 430% by the end of 2008. Estimates from private sector economists estimate inflation at about four times the official figures, and so the unpleasant statistics read on.

The questions we have to ask ourselves today in KwaZulu-Natal and of course in South Africa as a whole are: Is Zimbabwe an appropriate example we want to follow in our efforts to right the wrongs of the past? Do we want to reform current land ownership at such a cost to the agricultural sector and, in the end, to the consumer of agricultural goods? Our primary aspiration in KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa with regard to land issues should at all times be sustainable agriculture.

Sustainable agriculture integrates three essential goals: farm profitability, prosperous farming communities and environmental stewardship. Sustainable agriculture refers to the ability of a farm to produce food indefinitely, without causing any irreparable damage to ecosystem health. Two key issues are biophysical - that is the long-term effects of various practices on soil properties and processes essential to crop productivity - and socio-economical - that is the long-term ability of farmers to obtain inputs and manage resources such as labour.

The physical aspects of sustainability are partly understood. Practices that can cause long-term damage to soil include excessive tillage, leading to erosion and irrigation without adequate drainage, leading to accumulation of salt in the soil. Long-term experiments provide some of the best data on how various practices affect soil properties essential to sustainability.

When we speak of eliminating hunger, of increasing agricultural productivity and balancing the equity of how people access food, we cannot forget that it is the farmers who feed the nation and the world. In order for our black farmers especially, to produce what is needed, they need proper training and sufficient understudying under a qualified, experienced farmer for a few years before standing on their own as successful farmers. It is wrong to give agricultural land to every Tom, Dick and Harry without any assisting

them in the skills department. If we are experiencing any failure at present, it is because we are without experience.

The success or failure of small-scale farmers in a developing country such as South Africa lies in managing the natural and biological resources available to us. These resources will determine the diversity of the foods we eat, support our nutritional needs and produce many of the goods we live on.

I would like to recommend the following with regard to small-scale farmers: Firstly, train farmers in agricultural techniques such as terracing and land cultivation. Secondly, train them in the construction of dams. Train farmers in rain water conversion and, lastly, work with small-scale farmers to improve irrigation, including community construction projects, to build reservoirs and gravity-fed irrigation systems.

Poor access to health and education services, especially in rural areas, indirectly but ultimately reduces subsistence agricultural productivity. Health epidemics such as TB and HIV/Aids devastate our people, especially in the rural areas. By having to care for people who are sick, less or no time is left to tend to the fields. This limits people's ability to produce the very food they need for their daily survival. By maintaining or increasing crop yields and by producing more nutritious and well-balanced foodstuffs, people can deal more effectively with the negative impacts of these diseases within their families.

In conclusion, if our contemplation of land reforms fails to take into consideration concerns such as these, we will fail to reform land utilisation and land ownership for the benefit of the people of KwaZulu-Natal and also South Africa. I thank you.

HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: The following speaker is from the ANC, the hon S N Mtetwa, who will speak for 11 minutes.

MR S N MTETWA (ANC): Angibonge Somlomo, ohleli ngaphambili. Ngithi-ke Somlomo okuphelele akayisekel ngoba uma uSomlomo engekho, uwena uSomolo, njengoSihlalo uma ungekho, uSihlalo kuba yilowo okhona. Okokuqala mangihalalisele abesifazane, omama nodadewethu, amadodakazi kwinyanga yabo le esiyiqale izolo, sisho ukuthi cha siyavuma ukuthi nathi saba yingxenye kubona njengamadoda, kodwa-ke sesibonile, siyezwa nangezindlebe siyakuphenduka kancane kancane, halala kuleyo ndawo!

Somlomo uMthiya neNADECO angikusho ukuthi yinhle le motion Mthiya, yinhle impela ngoba isenza sonke isvume ukuthi yindaba le okufanele kukhulunywe ngayo, and uma sikhula ngayo sikhulume nje honestly, ngoba indaba yokudla, indaba yomhlaba, indaba yemisebenzi, indaba yezifo ezitholakala ngenxa yokungabikhona kwalezi zinto ezingaphezulu, yindaba leyo yosuku nosuku lokuphila kwethu. Kuphela ukuthi mhlawumbe nakuba sivumelana, into engek mhlawumbe sivumelane ngokupheleleyo yile yokuthi uma sesiyixoxa, i-geniune inje bese sifaka lokhu esihola ngakho kwala yindlini, kwepolitiki. Uthole ukuthi nazi izindlela zimbili, siphila ezweni lomthetho, elilawulwa wumthetho, okwaxoxiswa ukuba lo mthetho ube khona, kufaneleke ukuba uma umthetho ukhona silandele wona., ukuthi mhlambe uhamab kancane kangakanani until siwushintsha lowo mthetho, sikhulume indaba yokuthi siwushintsha kanjani. Kodwa bese kuba khona le enye ngizwile noProfessor uthintile kuyona ethi benze njani abangaphambili ngesikhathi besidudulela emaweni, emahlanzeni? Umbuzo uzothi-ke makube yileyo yini okufanele sihambe ngayo na? iqiniso lizothi mhlambe cha, phela thina asibona laba abasenza, uma kuwukuthi abasenzayo kwakukubi, kungafanele, kubuhlungu angke thina sikwenze lokho ngoba akulungiswa into embi ngento embi, kodwa-ke kunezindlela ezikhona mhlambe esingaxoxisana ngazo ukuthi siyilungisa kanjani.

Kufana kwesinye isikhathi nale yomxhaso, Somlomo, through wena Mthiya, kufamnelekile ukuba baxhaswe abalimi njengalokhu kwakwenzeka ngaphambili, kodwa enye into okufanele siyikhumbule ukuthi kuleyo mxhaso eyayikhona, kwakukhethwa iphela emasini, kungabhekela bonke abantu ezweni, kwakubhekela idlanzana lelo elalingaphezulu kwethu. Kuzofanele-ke uma siyixoxa le ndaba ukuthi uhulumeni abaxhase, siqonde ukuthi uzobe exhasa bonke abantu and uzobe exhasa abantu abaningi, therefore uzobe engenzi loku ababekwenza, kungangafanike okanye kungangagijima ngejubane elifanayo.

Sengikuphawulile-ke lokho, ngiyafisa ukuthi ngixoxe nje kafushane ukuthi siyazi sonke ukuthi abantu abaningi okuthiwa bahlupheka, bakulezi zindawo zasemakhaya futhi baze bazishiya izindawo zasemakhaya beza emadolobheni bezofuna ukuphangela ngakhona, kodwa abacwaningi engikuthole mavu nje bathi, kwizwe lonk lale Ngingizimu Afrika iTheku libukwa njengedolobha elibomvu uma ziya ebantwini abaningi abampofu, iTheku leli esithi laKwaZulu-Natali licebile, mhlambe nawe ungazibhekela ukuthi leyonto yenzeka kanjani nokuthi uma siwakaha amaprogramme, siyenze njani leyonto ngoba

kwesinye isikhathi hleze amatargets ethu angaqondi kahle.

Kwakuma meetings ethu njenge portfolio committee idepartment irephotha ukuthi ngenxa yalezi zimo zomhlaba, zefood security, kukhona amaprogrammes akhona ukuzama uku adresa lezi zinto. Bathi kukhona le ePSEDS abathi yiProvincial Spacial Economic Development Programme, esi introjusiwe la, kuhlange ne i-Agriculture ne Land Affairs, ukubhekela lezi zimo. Uma ubalalela besho uythola ukuthi lezi zinto esikhuluma ngazo already ziyaqalwa ukusetshenzwa but the question of mhlambe ispeed sihamba kangakanani. Ngamafushane kusitshela lokhu ukuthi kukhona okwenziwayo not necessarily ukuthi akukho sanhlobo, kuze kukhulme ngisho abantu abake bathola amathuba okuthi bangezeke amandla ngezikhathi zabo kuthiwa akwenziwa lutho, hhawu wean wenzani? Kulo mhlaba esikhuluma ngawo wala KwaZulu-Natali obalwa ku 52%, ko 53% bathi u 29% wakhona yiklo mhlaba abekhuluma ngawo uMnu uBurrows, umhlonishwa ukuthi ungaphansi kwe Ingonyama Trust land. Nakhona sawuthola umbiko othi cha izingxoxo zikhona ngoba phela bawubeka ngokuthi u-under-utilised kanti futhi unezinkomo ezama million, but-ke kunomehlukwana ukubala ama million ezinkomo zamadoda ahlukene ngoba kwesinye isikhathi ubaba u 5 wami no 4 womunye ngenxa yokuthi sesibaningi. Kodwa-ke engiqonde ukukho la ukuthi idepartment yasibikela ukuthi isohlelweni lokuxoxisana nokufundisana nabaholi bomdaba ukuthi kungasizwanwa kanjani kulolu daba.

Enye yezinto abasibikela yona ngelinye ilanga yile ethi indlu yamadla, abesifazane phela, nolusha kulezi nhlelo lezi zilimo yinto ebingemuva kanti kuthina esesifundile namhlanje, kwashiwo umama kushiwo indlu yamandla ngempela. Ithi-ke idepartment isize yaqamba nohlelo lwe (WARDI) Women in Agriculture and Rural Development Initiative. Ngamafushane kukhona okwenziwayo and okwenziwayo kuyazama ukufokhasa, okwethu ukuthi iminikelo ingakanani esithasisela kuyona ukuyenza lento ibe eyethu sonke ukuyiyisa phambili. Angifunike ukubala kaningi ngoba sengiyazi ukuthi uma uya kumasipala oseDumbe, ePhongolo uMziwabantu, uMhlabuyalingana koBxx14:36:31 nakoMngeni koMsunduzi, kunohlelo nje esabikelwa ngalo ukuthi kuhloswe ukuthi imizi ngomasipala ngomasipala ewu 800 umasipala ungamunye ihlonzwe, ithagethwe ukuthi inyulwe kulobu bubha obukhona. Kunezimali kuhlange ne uhulumeni weFlemish kanye nedepartment ukuzama ukuthi leyo programme iqhubeke iye phambili. Lokho kukhomba ukuthi kukhona okwenziwayo, kuohela mhlambe ukuthi ispeed singakanani noma-ke mhlambe owethu umnikelo esingawusho ungakanani.

Angifuni ukukhomenta ngalokhu engikuzwile kuhlasimulisa ngingababaza nje nami njengabanye abababazile lokho obekukhulunywa yiMeya yaseDumbe obekushiwo umhlonishwa wala oSlabbert.

Okuhle engingakusho nje ukuthi uhulumeni esikuye uyalalela, unezindlebe, iminyango yakhe ivuliwe, bonke abantu banelungelo lokuba bazobeka imibono bese-ke kubonakala ukuthi leyo mibono ihamba kangakanani. Sikhumbule ukuthi uma ihamba leyo mibono ihambisana nokuthi isabelo singakanani ngoba ziningi izinto ezibhekene nohulumeni. Angithi phela mina ngikhuluma njengomuntu wala endlini, angikhulumi njengomuntu wangaphandle njengabanye, ngikhuluma njengomuntu ozibalayo izibalo ngesikhathi sabela ama-department nohlala kwi NCOP kwesinye isiskhathi uzwe ukuthi izimali zabiwa kanjani. Asingavalike iminyango, sengiyagcina soMlomo, ngelokuthi kunezethembiso engazathi zinkulu ngalolo hlobo ezathenjiswa abantu, ezingafezekanga kanti sisho nje kukhona abangafuni ukuthi siyohlangana nabantu abantu befuna ukuhlangana nathi, singakuvaleli lokho. Uyabona esakuzwa siseMsinga la kuthiwa khona hhayi bo kwafika uNgqongqoshe wakwaAgriculture wasithembisa ogandaganda, lutho sisabathe, sathukuthela nathi siyikomidi sayobuza. Uma esebika uMthimkhulu uthi hhayi bo!, yiqiniso and ngathembisa ngalabo gandaganda futhi sebhona wase esho ukuthi bakuphi, hhawu! hheyi madoda bayakhuluma abantu! Sathi bonke abathenjiswa abasibhalele khona so rephotha, asikakatholi lutho. Ngiyabonga Somlomo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Insert isiZulu 14:29:21. Our next speaker will be the hon Rev A H Mbatha who will respond to all the excellent contributions.

REV A H MBATHA (NADECO): Thank you, hon Speaker. I want to thank hon members for their contributions to this debate. I want to agree with the last speaker, the hon Mr Mtetwa, who said that food does not belong to any political party. There are goods and services, of which food is one, which cannot be allowed to be politicised. This nation will be brought to its knees if it allows political games to compromise food security and poverty alleviation.

Our people today are the target of welfare services and the budget of welfare services is growing year by year, because of the problem around food security and job creation.

I said earlier on that we in this House are able to make decisions regarding land. Land

has boundaries. KwaZulu-Natal is a province which has boundaries. We have jurisdiction over this land and we can decide what we do with that land in order to ensure food security and job creation. This legislature should put aside political differences and political point-scoring and begin to focus on and address the issue of job creation, economic growth and poverty alleviation in this province. If we do not succeed, we are compromising our own people and we are compromising our own role during this legislative term.

One day our children are going to ask us what we achieved with regard to food security and poverty alleviation. They are going to ask: Other than increase welfare budgets year by year, what did you do? We will not be able to look them in the eye and say: We fought and won the war.

And yes, it is appalling to hear about that mayor whose concern for his neighbours runs only along racial lines. He should be interested in food security and not worry about race. We should delink land ownership from food security and poverty alleviation. I am talking about the utilisation of land. I do not care who owns the land. I do not care who produces mealie meal. As long as there is enough food in our province, who cares whether it is a white farmer or an Indian farmer or a black farmer, or whether he or she is an emerging farmer or a commercial farmer?

Sufficient jobs must be created in our province to take care of the people who are flooding into KwaZulu-Natal because they think this is the land of hope. One of the reasons for the French Revolution was a lack of food. If I understand my history well, the shortage of food was the last straw that broke the camel's back. If we do not talk about food in this House, if we do not make friends with each other at the expense of food security, we are fooling ourselves and each other.

We broke for lunch in the middle of the debate because of food. We will go home now because of food. The best industry in the world to be involved in right now is the food industry. Look at the businesses which make money – they all revolve around food.

So, who is suffering? It is he who is unemployed. He who is unemployed cannot afford to buy food tonight. If we in this House play political games instead of trying to make a genuine contribution around food security and poverty alleviation for the sake of the people in this province, we are really playing with fire.

The hon MEC and hon members of this House all know about the good programmes that have been launched. I know, because I serve in the portfolio committee. My request is this: Let us have programmes to assist the people who are there, but let us have a grand plan to ensure that there is sufficient food. That plan does not care whether there is an emerging farmer or a commercial farmer or a co-operation or whatever. We know there are emerging farmers, but they are all doing poultry farming. How are we going to ensure that there is maize? Let us go to state land and plough it. Let us get young people trained so that they can get onto those farms. Whether they own them or not, that is immaterial! Whether the farm is to be transferred to a community soon, that is immaterial. Let us produce food! [Time expired]

HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: We thank the hon Reverend for reminding the House that food, like manners, maketh the man. When I say man, I mean both men and women.

8.5 Debate on motion in celebration of August as Women's Month

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, I would like to wish all women across the country all of the very best for the month of August. We assure them that we will do our very best to combat the issues which many women grapple with, in particular any abuse aimed at women and children. Having said that, I now call upon the hon Mrs W G Thusi, MEC for Arts, Culture and Tourism who introduced the following motion:

This House noting:

That the year 2007 marks the 13th anniversary of the liberation of women;

That this year marks the 51st anniversary of our women's historic march to the Union Buildings, and

That, despite the fact that we still face many challenges, we are celebrating our achievements in all the different spheres of our lives.

Therefore resolves:

To pay tribute to the men and women who laid down their lives in order for us to enjoy freedom.

MRS W G THUSI (MEC for Arts, Culture and Tourism): Thank you, Mr Speaker. Malibongwe!

HON MEMBERS: Malibongwe!

MRS W G THUSI (MEC for Arts, Culture and Tourism): Igama lamakhosikazi!

HON MEMBERS: Malibongwe!

MRS W G THUSI (MEC for Arts, Culture and Tourism): Somlomo baba, angiqale ngokubingelela izintombi ezindala ezihleli lapha phezulu, nangu umkhwenyana ngihleli eduze kwakhe [Hom Radebe MEC, ja izintomvbi zami lezi]. Siyabonga kubaholi balesi Sishayamthetho ngokucabanga ukuthi ngale nyanga ebalulekile yaka August, babize izintombi ezindala, izinzalabantu, abantu abasigadela amakhaya, abasigadela abantwana, abasenzela yonke into, siyabonga bomama.

Uhulumeni wentandoyeningi wabona kubalulekile ukuthi umhlaka 9 ku August awenze kube yiholide ngenxa yokuthi amaqhawekazi ethu amasha adela izimpilo zawo, amadoda eseqla ukuhluleka ukuthi amapasi awawafuni, amakhosikazi ahamba aya kwi Union Buildings ayosho ukuthi sekwanele. Futhi lo hulumeni wethu ukubone kubalulekile ukuthi le nyanga kaAugust avele athi yinyanga yabantu besifazane, siyakubongake lokho. Siyabonga kakhulu nakuNdunankulu wethu uManzankosi ngokubona kubalulekile ukuthi abone ukuthi abantu besifazane babaluleke kangakanani abafake kwikhabhinethi njengoba wayethembisile uma engena ukuthi uzolandisa inani labantu besifazane, ukwenzile lokho. Uyazi ukubaluleka kokuba khona kwabantu besifazane kwizinhlelo zonke zakahulumeni nezasemphakathini. Nenani labantu besifazane abakhona, abayizinhloko zomnyango, abawu 7 kube u 8 noNobhala walesi Sishayamthetho, singunamba 2 kuma provinsi wonke. IMpumalanga ina 8 Heads of Departments abantu besifazane, thina seyesibili iprovinsi enabantu besifazane abaningi. Namalungu ephalamende bandla, amaningi ikakhulukazi kuleli cala engingakulona, anginamahloni ukusho ukuthi inhlango ka ANC yabona ukuthi kubalulekile ukuthi babeke abantu besifazane babe baningi. Kodwa-ke kusho ukuthi ngizoyiphonsa inselelo ngale ngaphesheya ukuthi nani isikhathi sithi manje abantu besifazane ababonakale, aibanikeze iqhaza abantu besifazane, singabi nabantu out of 27 members of parliament, we only have 5 members abangabantu besifazane. Asiyilungise, [awume kancane mama ngilwela wean manje] asiyilungise manje leyonto yokuthi nibone ukuthi abantu

besifazane bayameleleka.

Sifuna ukubonga kuhulumeni wethu ukuthi ubonile ukuthi uHousing sinezindlu abantu besifazane esasingenazo, amanzi alethwe eduze ngoba ukulethwa kwamanzi nogesi eduze kubantu besifazane yinkululeko kunokuthwala o 25 litha siya emfuleni, silima senza yonke into, kuthina kube yinkululeko yonke leyo. Kuningi ngingakubala, nogogo bangafakaza laphaya, isondlo sezingane ezinobaba ababalekayo sikhona. Ogogo bangafakaza ukuthi manje bayakwazi ukuthola impesheni ebonakalayo, engabaphilisa. Siyambonga-ke lo hulumeni wethu. Kodwa-ke ngishilo ngathi sisenawo ama-challenges, amachallenges ethu Angibonge Somlomo, ohleli ngaphambili. Ngithi-ke Somlomo okuphelele akayisekel ngoba uma uSomlomo engekho, uwena uSomolo, njengoSihlalo uma ungekho, uSihlalo kuba yilowo okhona. Okokuqala mangihalalisele abesifazane, omama nodadewethu, amadodakazi kwinyanga yabo le esiyiqale izolo, sisho ukuthi cha siyavuma ukuthi nathi saba yingxenye kubona njengamadoda, kodwa-ke sesibonile, siyezwa nangezindlebe siyakuphenduka kancane kancane, halala kuleyo ndawo!

Somlomo uMthiya neNADECO angikusho ukuthi yinhle le motion Mthiya, yinhle impela ngoba isenza sonke isvume ukuthi yindaba le okufanele kukhulunywe ngayo, and uma sikhula ngayo sikhulume nje honestly, ngoba indaba yokudla, indaba yomhlaba, indaba yemisebenzi, indaba yezifo ezitholakala ngenxa yokungabikhona kwalezi zinto ezingaphezulu, yindaba leyo yosuku nosuku lokuphila kwethu. Kuphela ukuthi mhlawumbe nakuba sivumelana, into engek mhlawumbe sivumelane ngokupheleleyo yile yokuthi uma sesiyixoxa, i-geniune inje bese sifaka lokhu esihola ngakho kwala yindlini, kwepolitiki. Uthole ukuthi nazi izindlela zimbili, siphila ezweni lomthetho, elilawulwa wumthetho, okwaxoxiswa ukuba lo mthetho ube khona, kufaneleke ukuba uma umthetho ukhona silandele wona., ukuthi mhlambe uhamab kancane kangakanani until siwushintshe lowo mthetho, sikhulume indaba yokuthi siwushintsha kanjani. Kodwa bese kuba khona le enye ngizwile noProfessor uthintile kuyona ethi benze njani abangaphambili ngesikhathi besidudulela emaweni, emahlanzeni? Umbuzo uzothi-ke makube yileyo yini okufanele sihambe ngayo na? iqiniso lizothi mhlambe cha, phela thina asibona laba abasenza, uma kuwukuthi abasenzayo kwakukubi, kungafanele, kubuhlungu angke thina sikwenze lokho ngoba akulungiswa into embi ngento embi, kodwa-ke kunezindlela ezikhona mhlambe esingaxoxisana ngazo ukuthi siyilungisa kanjani.

Kufana kwesinye isikhathi nale yomxhaso, Somlomo, through wena Mthiya, kufamnelekile ukuba baxhaswe abalimi njengalokhu kwakwenzeka ngaphambili, kodwa enye into okufanele siyikhumbule ukuthi kuleyo mxhaso eyayikhona, kwakukhethwa iphela emasini, kungabhekela bonke abantu ezweni, kwakubhekela idlanzana lelo elalingaphezulu kwethu. Kuzofanele-ke uma siyixoxa le ndaba ukuthi uhulumeni abaxhase, siqonde ukuthi uzobe exhasa bonke abantu and uzobe exhasa abantu abaningi, therefore uzobe engenzi loku ababekwenza, kungangafanike okanye kungangagijima ngejubane elifanayo.

Sengikuphawulile-ke lokho, ngiyafisa ukuthi ngixoxe nje kafushane ukuthi siyazi sonke ukuthi abantu abaningi okuthiwa bahlupheka, bakulezi zindawo zasemakhaya futhi baze bazishiya izindawo zasemakhaya beza emadolobheni bezofuna ukuphangela ngakhona, kodwa abacwaningi engikuthole mavu nje bathi, kwizwe lonk lale Ngingizimu Afrika iTheku libukwa njengedolobha elibomvu uma ziya ebantwini abaningi abampofu, iTheku leli esithi laKwaZulu-Natali licebile, mhlambe nawe ungazibhekela ukuthi leyonto yenzeka kanjani nokuthi uma siwakaha amaprogramme, siyenze njani leyonto ngoba kwesinye isikhathi hleze amatargets ethu angaqondi kahle.

Kwakuma meetings ethu njenge portfolio committee idepartment irephotha ukuthi ngenxa yalezi zimo zomhlaba, zefood security, kukhona amaprogrammes akhona ukuzama uku adresa lezi zinto. Bathi kukhona le ePSEDS abathi yiProvincial Spacial Economic Development Programme, esi introjusiwe la, kuhlange ne i-Agriculture ne Land Affairs, ukubhekela lezi zimo. Uma ubalalela besho uythola ukuthi lezi zinto esikhuluma ngazo already ziyaqalwa ukusetshenzwa but the question of mhlambe ispeed sihamba kangakanani. Ngamafushane kusitshela lokhu ukuthi kukhona okwenziwayo not necessarily ukuthi akukho sanhlobo, kuze kukhulme ngisho abantu abake bathola amathuba okuthi bangezeke amandla ngezikhathi zabo kuthiwa akwenziwa lutho, hhawu wean wenzani? Kulo mhlaba esikhuluma ngawo wala KwaZulu-Natali obalwa ku 52%, ko 53% bathi u 29% wakhona yiklo mhlaba abekhuluma ngawo uMnu uBurrows, umhlonishwa ukuthi ungaphansi kwe Ingonyama Trust land. Nakhona sawuthola umbiko othi cha izingxoxo zikhona ngoba phela bawubeka ngokuthi u-under-utilised kanti futhi unezinkomo ezama million, but-ke kunomehlukwana ukubala ama million ezinkomo zamadoda ahlukeno ngoba kwesinye isikhathi ubaba u 5 wami no 4 womunye ngenxa yokuthi sesibaningi. Kodwa-ke engiqonde ukukho la ukuthi idepartment yasibikela ukuthi isohlelweni lokuxoxisana nokufundisana nabaholi

bomdaba ukuthi kungasizwanwa kanjani kulolu daba.

Enye yezinto abasibikela yona ngelinye ilanga yile ethi indlu yamadla, abesifazane phela, nolusha kulezi nhlelo lezi zilimo yinto ebingemuva kanti kuthina esesifundile namhlanje, kwashiwo umama kushiwo indlu yamandla ngempela. Ithi-ke idepartment isize yaqamba nohlelo lwe (WARDI) Women in Agriculture and Rural Development Initiative. Ngamafushane kukhona okwenziwayo and okwenziwayo kuyazama ukufokhasa, okwethu ukuthi iminikelo ingakanani esithasisela kuyona ukuyenza lento ibe eyethu sonke ukuyiyisa phambili. Angifunike ukubala kaningi ngoba sengiyazi ukuthi uma uya kumasipala oseDumbe, ePhongolo uMziwabantu, uMhlabuyalingana koBxx14:36:31 nakoMngeni koMsunduzi, kunohlelo nje esabikelwa ngalo ukuthi kuhloswe ukuthi imizi ngomasipala ngomasipala ewu 800 umasipala ungamunye ihlonzwe, ithagethwe ukuthi inyulwe kulobu bubha obukhona. Kunezimali kuhlange uhulumeni weFlemish kanye nedepartment ukuzama ukuthi leyo programme iqhubeke iye phambili. Lokho kukhomba ukuthi kukhona okwenziwayo, kuohela mhlambe ukuthi ispeed singakanani noma-ke mhlambe owethu umnikelo esingawusho ungakanani. Angifuni ukukhomenta ngalokhu engikuzwile kuhlasimulisa ngingababaza nje nami njengabanye abababazile lokho obekukhulunywa yiMeya yaseDumbe obekushiwo umhlonishwa wala oSlabbert.

Okuhle engingakusho nje ukuthi uhulumeni esikuye uyalalela, unezindlebe, iminyango yakhe ivuliwe, bonke abantu banelungelo lokuba bazobeka imibono bese-ke kubonakala ukuthi leyo mibono ihamba kangakanani. Sikhumbule ukuthi uma ihamba leyo mibono ihambisana nokuthi isabelo singakanani ngoba ziningi izinto ezibhekene nohulumeni. Angithi phela mina ngikhuluma njengomuntu wala endlini, angikhulumi njengomuntu wangaphandle njengabanye, ngikhuluma njengomuntu ozibalayo izibalo ngesikhathi sabela ama-department nohlala kwi NCOP kwesinye isiskhathi uzwe ukuthi izimali zabiwa kanjani. Asingavalike iminyango, sengiyagcina soMlomo, ngelokuthi kunezethembiso engazathi zinkulu ngalolo hlobo ezathenjiswa abantu, ezingafezekanga kanti sisho nje kukhona abangafuni ukuthi siyohlangana nabantu abantu befuna ukuhlangana nathi, singakuvaleli lokho. Uyabona esakuzwa siseMsinga la kuthiwa khona hhayi bo kwafika uNgqongqoshe wakwaAgriculture wasithembisa ogandaganda, lutho sisabathe, sathukuthela nathi siyikomidi sayobuza. Uma esebika uMthimkhulu uthi hhayi bo!, yiqiniso and ngathembisa ngalabo gandaganda futhi sebekhona wase esho ukuthi bakuphi, hhawu! hheyi madoda bayakhuluma abantu!

Sathi bonke abathenjiswa abasibhalele khona so rephotha, asikakatholi lutho. Ngiyabonga Somlomo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: **Insert isiZulu 14:45** The next speaker to deliberate on this matter is the hon Dr B M Radebe for nine minutes. **Insert isiZulu 14:45.**

DR B M RADEBE (MEC for Social Development): Angibonge Sekela Somlomo. Ngiqale ngokusho Somlomo umuntu engaka ngeni kwinkulumompikiswano ukuthi siqhamuka kwimpelasonto embi, embi ngoba silahlekelwe yimiphefumulo. Njengamanje umuntu ubethola i-report yokuthi kukhona omunye osesishiyle laphaya eDumbe oka 1975 esafika lapha sathola ukuthi ushe kakhulu, abantu beqedwa umlimo. So ke sinalezo zinto ezisixakile.

Somlomo ngithanda ukuthi le nkulumpikiswano yamhlanje ngiyibhekise ezintombini ezindala, onozala, ngihlanganisa intombi engizalayo uHlekisile, uMaNdlovu, ongasekho emhlabeni, engiyilento engiyiyona yokwazi ukuthi kukhona abantu ngemnxaxona yemfundiso yakhe.

Iye ingikhathaze Somlomo into yokuzwa kukhalwa kuze kukhale ngisho amakholwa ukuthi kunobuigebengu eSouth Africa. Izibalo zithi amakholwa eSouth Africa awu 80%. Umbuzo umuntu azibuza wona utghi uma kuwukuthi amakholwa awu 80% eSouth Africa, yini sihluleke ukudila naleli gconsana lezigegebengu eluhlukumeza omakoti bami, sanibonani bomakoti bani! Omakoti bami laba nomnakwethu oyedwa. Bonke laba abahola imali kadekle ngamkhipha uMbomvu naye zazimsingatha izintombi lezi zihambe nazo ngimbone aze abe yilkhuze. Sengizithathile Mbomvu, ngeke Mbovu zithande wena, ngeke zithande wena.

Namhlanje inyaka ka Agasti esenza sibheke ukuthi yiliphi iqhaza, okubuhlungu ukuthi labantu abagqiba amadiphu yibo laba. Abantu abamasha ngomhlaka -9 yibo laba. Abantu abahlukunyezwayo namhlanje yibo laba abasenza saba la. Wobani abazala abantu? Ngabe akekho umuntu okhona layindilini ukuba akazane abe khona umuntu wesifazane. Sonke uma kungathiwa yisikwata samadoda nje ngabe umuzi wezinsizwa uroom 8. Kodwa uNkulunkulu wakubona, I was very pleased last week, I think it was last week ngilalele umama uNgcobo benoGcina Mhlophe, siyabonga mama, siyabonga. Sinenhlanhla ukuthi kuleNdlu sisenabantu abaqhamuka kule background engikhuluma ngayo, yaleyo age group eyayiqgiba amadiphu, eyayipart yabantu ababemasha beya

ePitoli, ukuthi ukhona layiNdlini. Ngalalelisisa uyichaza ohlelweni lukaXolani Gwala.

Mina-ke ngithe ngikhuluma nelinye lamaphepha ekuseni ngathi i-experience esengiyibonile kulezi nyanga ngikhethiwe, ngikhonjwe ukuba nguNgqongqoshe, ingaphezu kwe-experience yeminyaka eyishumi ngiwuNgqongqoshe, izinto esengizibone zenzeka kubantu abadala. Abantu abadala, ogogo nomkhulu yibona abayissisulu sabaphangi ezimpeshenini, yibona abathengiselwa imithi okungaziwa ukuthi leyo mithi iqhamukaphi. Ngifike laphaya eWashbanke endaweni okuthinwa iseMfusini, kunesalukazi somhlophe sihamba nenganyana, ibhungwana elila ko 16-17 bahamba nge Uno ebomvu. Ugaxe izinto ezisazipopoywana lo mfana, ngimbuzo, ngiyazumisake ezikhungweni, ngithi ubani lo? ngibuza kulesi salukazi, athi umzukulu wakhe, he is my grandson. Ngithi wenzani la, athi ngiyamtrainer ukuthi abe udokotela. Umtrainer kanjani, ngoba phela kufanele afake izipopolo, aye esikoleni ahale u 7 years, umtrainer kanjani? Wahluleka ukungiphendula. Ngambuza ukuthi isurgery yakho ikuphi? Wathi anginayo, ngihamba nje kuma pay point, mina owami umsebenzi yilowo. Lo mfana ufike axilonge ogogo, agange ngabo, bakhokhiswe oR200, banikwe imithi esishiswe yilanga ebekwe phezulu kwi Uno. Imikhuba engiyibone eMfusini laphaya eDumbe. I am sure iNkosi yakwaZashuke iyazazi lezinto engizishoyo. Omashonisa, kukhona omunye ugogo laphaya, wathatah imali uR800 ngo 2003, njalo ngenyanga imali ebanjwayo R650 ngenyanga, from 2003 to date. Ngiyambuza lo mashonisa ukuthi imalini esele uthi akazi wazi ekhokhwa ugogo nje kuphela.

Amapasi ogogo, ubaba uMsomi ilungu elihloniphekile alikho la belizongifakazela, kushone umuntu wahlala emakhazeni kuGale Street, kuskela ngomhlaka 31 kuDecember ugogo, waze wangcwatshwa i-Department ngo March, ngoba ipasi lakhe alikho kuyena lihleli kumashonisa, akukwazi ukutholakala kwe death certificate, kwaze kwadinga ukuthi singenelele, sifone direct ePretoria, ayogxiviziswa isithupha emakhazeni, kuze kuphume izinto zakhe, kutholwe ideath certificate, angcwabeke-ke. Omasingcwabisane baxhaphaza ogogo laphaya. Ngesikhathi ugogo ekhula, uyabona nje ubaba una 97 years ngoFebruary njalo sithi happy birth day kubaba. The more ubaba ekhula iyehla i-cover emkhavile. I had ama meetings nalabantu abangcwabayo. Sikwiprocess yokuqhamuka ne Legislation ezovala wonke ama insurances companies, ngaphandle kwaleyo ezovethwa yi-Department. Sishaye umthetho wokuthi kwi-stop order, kungabikhona i-stop order esizobanjwa esingaphezuluy kwemali engaka ngoba imali abayikhokhayo, ubaba ukhokha uR60 ngenyanga, uma ubaba eshona kule

minyaka engaka njengba ena 97, uzothola uR200. kade singcwaba ubaba omdala la Kwavulindlela ngaphezulu, ubese ena 110, imali esayikthola komunye womasingcwabisane wathola uR2000. kwadinga ukuthi singene ezindlekweni. Umhlonishwa, ilungu elihloniphekile ubaba uBhungane wangifonela eseNembe, same thing eyenzakalayo. You pay for years. Labo gogo Somlomo bayisisulu sabaphangi, but into ebuhlungu Somlomo ukuthi thina... ayikho impesheni eholelwa emkhathini, yonke impesheni iholelwa ewadini la kunekhansela, kumana-community office, la kukhona amalungu ephalamende angazikhathazi ukuthi akayobheka ukuthi benziwa njani labo gogo. Kuyadlalwa ngabo. Omunye namhlanje kwaMaphumulo, ubevela enkantiolo, obanjwe egwazisa ugogo imali wafuna imali kugogo, wamnikeza uhhafu uphunyelwe yisamba ugogo. Wamlandela kwakhe, wawuhlaba umkhosi ugogo sathinta amaphoyisa, yathathwa imali. Uvele kwaMaphumulo enkantolo namhlanje uzophuma emaphepheni kusasa, i-Social Worker ye-department. Ubamba ugogo imali uR2500. ngizama ukuthi angazi ukuthi yini esingayenza ngabantu abadala, bayisisulu sabaphangi. Abantu banezimali, bama millionaire namhlanje, banezimoto sonke layindlini esingeke sikwazi ukuhamba ngazo ngenxa yezimali abapxhaphaza ngazo ogogo nomkhulu. Even imajority iyongivumela ilungu elihloniphekile, iNkosi yakwaZashuke, abantu abahola impesheni abantu besifazane, yibona amayi majority and yibona laba asebenze lezi ngane ezincane zaceba. Uyabona uma ucabanga ukuthi le ntombazane esayipbophayo Ezingolweni ethathe u 39 thousand, I mean u 39 million, isesikhwameni sayo imali yezingane ezingekho, u514 000 ewuphethe, ehamba nawo. And labogogo, its unbelievable ukuthi baya emholweni babuye bengaphethe ngisho uR2. uthathwa umashonisa afike amgxivizise isithupha imali ithathwe uyena. Laba abahola ezitolo utshelwa umnikazi wesitolo ukuthi thatha kangaka, iphelile manje imali yakho aphinde ekhaya engaphethe ngisho uR20 wokuthenga ibhokisi likamentshisi.

Yizinto lezi engithi mina ngalolu suku lwabesifazane, ake sibhukuleni, sithi labantu sila namhlanje, singoNgqongqoshe, soZihlalo, samaLungu ePhalamende yibona laba abagqiba amadiphu, yibona laba abamasha baya ePitoli, siyeke nje zonke lezi zinto zePolitiki nani nani nani. Mina eyami i-request ukuthi, ake sisukumeni malungu ephalamende siyovikela ogogo nomkhulu ezikhungweni zokuhola kuyabhujwa!, umgodi wezingonyama laphaya. Ngakho-ke akuzukusisiza ukuthi sibe bahle, sibe woNgqongqoshe, sibe yini, sigfake othayi but oma abasibekela bebe bedliwa amankentshane. [Time expired] Ngiyabonga kakhulu Sekela Somlomo, sithi nje ake

sivikele ogogo bethu nomkhulu bethu izintombi zami lezi nabanakwethu. Ngiyabonga.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: insert isiZulu 14:55 The next speaker is the hon Mrs Mncwango from the IFP for six minutes.

MS L A MNCWANGO (IFP): Somlomo Baba, baqinisile ngempela bathi impumelelo inoyise abaningi kodwa ukwehluleka akunamnikazi. Namhlanje abantu base-17 kwaziwa kahle hle ukuthi amalungu eNkatha. Ngicela ukusho ukuthi umuntu uba yilungu lenhlangano ngokuba nekhadi layo kuphela nje. Akusho ukuthi ukugqoka i-t-shirt sekumenza ukuthi abe yilungu laleyo nhlangano. Ngakho-ke bafethu akungaphazanyiswa, umuntu noma angagqoka i-t-shirt akusho ukuthi ungumnikazi waleyo nhlangano leyo nhlangano. Bekuyizingcoli ebezikade ziyoganga eMlazi, yingakho ngiqale ngakho ukuthi ku-wrong lokhu okwenzakele. Asikwazi-ke ukuxolisela into esingathume muntu kuyona njengeqembu leNkatha.

Njengabaholi-ke abala eNdlini, abanohlonze kumele senze i-justice singaqali ukukhomba abantu singakazibhekisisi izinto. Zidala zenzeka lezi zinto kuthi ekugcineni uma sekutholakele ukuthi obani abantu akade be-wrong akube kusababikho umuntu obuyayo eNkatheni azothi, "Cha siyaxolisa kanti bekungenina", vele isisulu sabaphangi, wonke umuntu uma efuna ukucasha kulula nje ukuthi acashe nge-t-shirt abese ethi kube yilungu lalowo muntu, cha, ilungu lenhlangano ngazi kahle ukuthi lifanele liphathe ikhadi lalelo qembu. Ngakho-ke bafowethu asingezi ukuzoxova lana. Kungenzeka ukuthi uNgqongqoshe uyabazi laba bantu, koba kuhle ukuthi atshele amaphoyisa, amaphoyisa ababophe labo bantu.

Mr Speaker and hon members of this august House, I have pleasure to stand here and table my opinions on celebrating Women's Day. Given the opportunity, women excell and always prove themselves beyond any shadow of a doubt. Uma nje ufundisa kuthiwa nangesiZulu kuthiwa uma ufundisa umuntu wesifazane usuke u-enrich-e yonke indawo lapho esuke khona. Right now ladies are being celebrated as they continue to make meaningful contributions to our societies. Thank you very much. That is very good.

However, I must hasten to mention that it is still very sad to note that in this day and age women in big companies are still being sidelined. I was reading this magazine this morning. It is a beautiful magazine. It has to do with every CEO that you can find around here. Out of 16 executives that I read about here - good, most of them are black, so BEE

must be settling in - 14 of them are men and only four are ladies. What has happened? [Sifunda sonke, siya sonke ema-universities sifike sibaqole sibahlule futhi kodwa uma sekuthiwa sekuyasetshenzwa asingeni ndawo. Kwenzenjani?](#) This situation is disturbing in this day and age and at this stage of our democracy.

It is still prevalent in our society to find fathers, uncles and brothers abusing young children, people they should be protecting. Just the other day a documentary was flighted on television whereby a husband took out R1 million insurance for his wife and ended up murdering her. [Angazi noma bakhona yini abayibonile leyo ndaba. Indoda yaqinisekisa ukuthi imsayinela yenza yonke into, unkosikazi wabulawa ukuze kutholakale lo R1m. Akusho ukuthi amadoda ayafana, awafani vele kodwa ngiveza izinto eziwubuhlungu ezehlela ebantu besifazane.](#)

This morning's newspaper today is carrying a story where a disabled granny was raped. [Njengoba usho nje mhlonishwa ukuthi bayahlushwa abantu abagugeleyo. Kureyishwe umuntu omdala, kukhona omunye owayereyishwa umzukulu okuthiwa wamkhulisa emthathe kunina enezinyanga ezinhlanu wazohlala nayo la ekhaya, izalwa yindodana, yashona indodana eneminyaka ewu-5 lo mfana. Usejikela ugogo wakhe, ugogo wakhe omkhulisileyo! Kwenzenjani? UMntwana wakwaPhindangene uyaye abuze athi, "Nithomba kangaki kanti nina?" Washo njalo.](#)

I am also reminded of a story carried in the newspapers of this province a few years ago, [abanye bayokhumbula](#), where a single father was pleading with an arrogant grown-up man to stop messing with his daughter. [Aze athi, "Awu ngiyikhulise ngingedwa nkosi yami le ngane"](#). That man was so arrogant that he said the child was the one who was coming after him and not *vice versa* when, in fact, this married man was luring this child [ngemali](#). I won't say [ukuthi ubani lowo kodwa amaphepha akusho](#), I will only tell you the name of the father of the child who died suffering [ebulawa i-stress sendoda endala eyayithathe ingane iyigcindezele iyenze yonke le nto, leyo nsizwa leyo eyakwaGumede, igama layo uSipho, yile eyayidlala kahle u-music.](#) Yes, [yayisemaphepheni leyo ndaba](#) He died of stress and frustration, amongst other things.

It is not just the doom and gloom that one wants to highlight here. There are some successes that the government has achieved, such as the appointment of a capable female Deputy President. I underline "capable", because women do not want to be

tokens. Please do not make us tokens. It is appalling to note that the ruling party speaks with its tongue in its cheek. They will say twelve year-old girl children are ready to get pregnant and even have abortions without their parents knowing. How can you do this? Ironically, a fifteen year-old or a sixteen year-old child, girl child, cannot take a decision and say [mina ngiyakufuna ukuhlolwa](#). No, that is abuse, [kwenzenjani](#)? Wires are crossed.

[Isiko lokuhlolwa kwezintombi ngeke liphele kushuthi sebophelela emajele bonke-ke abafuna liphele](#). Then they are refused permission to undergo virginity testing, [isiko lokuhlolwa kwezintombi](#) that is done voluntarily, unlike [uku-circumsiz-wa kwabafana benqanyulwa, belimala, beshona abanye kodwa kungenziwa lutho](#). Ahh!

Margaret Thatcher was not called the Iron Lady for nothing. Indira Gandhi was killed by her male bodyguard. Well, there are good men, thankfully. Let's not argue about that, but it is also true that we also have beasts, [izilwane zakwamhlola! Izinto ezifohla noma yikuphi, ezidla fumuka zidle silaza, ezingenandaba nanina! Thina asizele izintombi ezinhle nje, hheyi, sihlala sethuke izanya. Sicabanga zonke izinhlobo zesihluku esenziwa kumuntu wesifazane emhlabeni wonke](#). [Time expired]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: We thank the hon member for reminding the House that there are still good men around also. The next speaker will be the hon Mrs M H Ambler-Moore for four minutes.

MRS A H AMBLER-MOORE (DA): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I would really like to thank the hon MEC Mrs Thusi for bringing this motion today as we commence Women's Month.

I would love to deal with two aspects that are really affecting our South African women, namely substance abuse in the form of alcohol and drugs and also the women who are left with children and no maintenance to support them. Unfortunately there is not time for both, so today I will speak on drug abuse that is affecting the women of this country.

In his letter to Timothy, Saint Paul says: "The love of money is the root of all evil." If you look at the crime statistics in South Africa today, the level of violence and the horrendous abuse many women suffer, a great deal of this evil can be linked to substance abuse - drugs and alcohol. According to SAPS crime stats released last month, 80% of crimes

are linked to substance abuse. Drug related crimes are at an all time high nation wide and, once again, according to SAPS stats, there were over 100 000 drug-related crimes in the past year - an increase of 10% over such crimes in the past two years.

Children are often high on drugs at school, leading to attacks on pupils and teachers. The sad thing is that communities are taking the law into their own hands, as happened in Mitchells Plain recently where over 1 000 residents stormed the house of a suspected drug dealer.

However, it is no good just talking about it. What should be done? The DA proposes the following:

- We believe that it is imperative that the state reclassifies some of the drugs that are used to make up such drugs as Crystals and Tik, so that these drugs are only available on prescription.
- We believe we need to support home-based rehabilitation care centres, as many of the drug addicts can be rehabilitated as outpatients. Families, parents and siblings need to get involved with this.
- Our state needs to increase funding to the South African Central Drug Authority.
- The SA Narcotics Board existed until 2004, but the government disbanded it. We believe this must be reinstated as a matter of urgency.
- One of the indirect causes of abuse is the money gained by poaching perlemoen. It sounds strange bringing perlemoen into a women's debate, but this money is used to buy drugs. Operation Neptune was discontinued by the SA Police Service. We believe it must be started again and this anti-poaching unit must be reinstated.
- There should be an increased budget for drug education at schools.

I know it sounds like many things that we're calling for. Money is short. There are many calls on the budget by the various departments - the budget of Health, the budget of Education - but this is not a magic wand we are waving. We ignore this scourge in our society at our peril. As the hon Mr Burrows said earlier, when he was speaking about a

previous issue, it is not a party-political matter. It needs action at the highest level. It needs action on the part of parents, on the part of teachers and on the part of peers. We all need to be involved.

Children and women are suffering. They are selling things. Girls as young as 12 years are prostituting themselves to get money to buy drugs. We need to treat this matter with the same urgency that we are treating the HIV/Aids pandemic.

I would like to end by saying that I congratulate our hon President, Mr Thabo Mbeki, on the stand he has taken in his call for everyone's involvement in this fight against substance abuse and, particularly, as it affects our women and our children. I thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Ambler-Moore, for adding your feminine voice on this important month dedicated to women. Our next speaker will be Solwazi, hon Maphalala, in the place of the hon Rev A H Mbatha.

PROF J S MAPHALALA (NADECO): Eeh Somlomo, angibonge. Kuliqiniswe osekhulunywe abakhulumi esibalandelayo. Ilungu elihloniphekile, uNkk. Weziwe Thusi kanye nelungu elihloniphekile le-IFP, uNkk uMncwango ukuthi kufanele okufanelwe kugcizelelwe amathuba emisebenzi. Uma abantu sebefundile bafunda ngokulingana banjani, asilweni sonke amathuba omsebenzi kodwa abeqhela abakhuluma ezinye izindaba baxove imindeni. Olunye udaba lolu. Udaba oluvunyelwana ngalo yilolu lokuthi akungathi abantu befunde bagogoda benza konke kodwa bacindezelwe laba ngokuba kuthiwa ngabesifazane.

Igama engilithandayo kuleli eligcizelelayo, makube nokubambisana. Ulisebenzisile uNkk ohloniphekile uThusi, ukubambisana, ukuhloniphana kuyenzeka ukuthi isikhathi eside asithathwa, yilabo abaxovayo ukuthi siyacindezela abesifazane bayabulawa, bayashaywa benzani. Bagijima nje abalwenzile ucwaningo. Abantu besifazane bahlonishwa izinqwaba emshadweni lapho inqaba hambani niyokwenza iresearch niyeke ukuvilapha. Kodwa-ke, sithi ke thina amahumusha lana ashaya abesifazane awamusuku-highlighter, labo bantu baxova imindeni yabantu ukuthi kuthiwe sebephelele abesifazane. Baphelephi bethandwa kangaka? Kade kuthiwa abantu besifazane baya-rape-shwa, kwajikwa kwa-rape-shwa abeshilisa. Washintsha umthetho wathi, hheyi bayaphela abantu besilisa nabo be-rape-shwa. Kwase kuthiwa bazoboshwa nalabo aba-rape-shwa abesilisa.

Sengisho ukuthi eeh.. singathi uma sila ephalamende sihambe ngolayini owodwa, njengoba kade kulwelwa inkululeko abantu ekade kulwa imindeni ebambene ngokuhloniphana kufe abantu bebambene kulwelwa inkululeko. Akusukuthi uma siyitholakele kule kuthiwe kukhona abacindezelwe, bacindezelwa njena abesilisa sebebaqedile abantu babulala yonke into. Ukubalala izwe lokho! Izwe asingalibulali thina esinabafana asebe-responsible ngempela thina esilapha, amathuba omsebenzi kodwa labo abalena bona nihambisa imizi eminingi ngisho emakhaya. Niyomangala! Amasiko abakhuselisi besiko abantu besifazane. Bakudlulisela kalula ngisho esithenjini bakudlulisela kalunga ezinganeni. Ivelaphi le nto yokuthi sebephelile abantu, abantu besifazane baphelile, kuxova umhlaba nje sekuthiwa manje izingane ezino-12 amaziphathe ama-condom phambili, zilale nabantu kuqala. Mhh!

Noma ngabe kuthiwa asizange sisho njalo kodwa kuthiwa aziphathe amakhondomu zingabatsheli abadala. Yilelo igama elishiwoyo esilizwile ukuthi mhlawumbe ngeke kusize, manje-ke, sisho lokho ukuthi akubanjiswane kodwa kukhulunywe isiko njengoba linjalo. Thina lapha KwaZulu sinenhlanhla, sisendaweni yamasiko ngempela ngoba sineNgonyama, sinamakhosi la, adlula yonke indawo. Ukuxova nje, simuzwa nje esaqala umuntu oxovayo. Nangu umxovi! Nangu umxovi siyamuzwa esaqala ukuthi ke umxovi ke lo. Hambelani emakhaya sifunde inhlonipho yaKwaZulu!

Sisesifundeni saKwaZulu-Natali, nomangala nomangala! Mina ngiphuma esithenjini ubaba ubenamakhosikazi amathathu, mina ngingowasokhohlo okhulumayo. Nomangala ukuthi singu-8 kwethu. Wasikhulisa umama kahle, ubaba ehlonipha. Indoda engafuni nathi, safunda saba yonke into silalela kodwa umama ulapha eduzane kwethu. Zivelaphi lezi zinto eziyizimangaliso esingazi umuntu uthini, mina angisezwa noma abantu bekhuluma ukuthi bathini labo bantu. Kuthiwa abantu baphelile! Baphelephi abantu? Ibaphi labo bantu abaphelili? Ake sizame ukukhuluma iqiniso uma ulanda izinto zase Ngilandi uyomangala sibuya khona nalapho eNgilandi kuyahlonishwa, yonke le nto umoya nje ozodlula amadimoni. Asikhulumeni indaba yethu yala, senze ucwaningo lubekwe la. Siyoya thina nasemhlanganweni uma kunjalo. Ngiyahluleka mina ukulalela manje ngoba ngithi ngiyabalalela abantu kuthi angithathe nje u-5 minutes ngihambe la. Kuzadlalwa phela la. Umuntu okhulumayo...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sibonge Solwazi ngokukhumbuza le Ndlu ehloniphekile ukuthi kanti namadoda ayadlwengulwa. Our next speaker will be the hon A. Rajbansi

from the MF for three minutes.

MR A RAJBANSI (MF): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I said earlier on that in order to commemorate Women's Day, next Friday will be the Women's International Boxing Day. All officials - from ring announcers, stewards, doctors, promoters, programme directors, glove attendants, everybody in that tournament - will be women. The boxers from Brazil are Juliana, Adriana and Michelle, and those from South Africa will be Noni, Dorothy and Unathi.

My department has 83 official different programmes involving 15 852 women in 11 of our districts, and we are going to have Women's Day Festival programmes aimed towards active seniors.

In world history, when suppressors thought that they could subjugate men, women rose up. In the forties, when the entire Congress leadership in India was detained, it was a woman who saved India. Some 10 or 15 years later, in South Africa, when women were detained, our men rose up. We must not only think of the famous march to the Union Building in 1956. In Durban there was also a very great march. The mover of this motion was four years old at the time, and the present speaker who is speaking now was 14 years old. I took part in the march, led by a great person called Florence Mkhize. We must never forget.

I said to the ANC: Please have a commemoration in Masonic Grove, because that is where the women played their most important role along with iNkosi Albert Luthuli. We have had Joan of Arc and many other people who have played very valiant roles. I am glad that the present policy is to ensure that women take their rightful place in society. I agree with my colleague from the IFP that women must say: I am appointed, I am promoted and I am a member of this legislature, not because of a special favour because I happen to be a woman, but because I am good. I am equal to anybody and everybody.

In my religion, the Hindu philosophy is that the power is with the mother. The power is with a woman. If you have a housing problem, who goes to the housing department? It is not the father. It is the mother. You are worried about raising the children, the upkeep of the children, whether children are going in the right direction ... it is the mother who takes care of these things. So the mother is very, very important. In our philosophy we

respect the mother and we say, in order of religious protocol, the mother or the woman is placed the highest. That is why it is very important that we have Women's Day and we commemorate the achievements and great sacrifices our women have made.

When Nehru delivered his freedom speech on the night when India gained independence, he paid the greatest tribute to the mothers and the women of India. Watch DSTV's world history after midnight and you will understand and appreciate the contribution and the suffering of women in world history, as well as their contributions to shaping the destinies of various countries and the world. Thank you, sir. By the way, MF also stands for My Family, and also Mother and Father. [Laughter]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member, for your contribution. The next speaker will be the hon Mrs J M Downs from the ACDP, for two minutes.

MRS J M DOWNS (ACDP): Thank you, Mr Speaker. In this short time I can only touch very briefly on three things.

Firstly, I really think that the new Children's Right Bill is misleading and mistaken to allow twelve year-old children access to condoms. It just protects the abuser and not the child. We really need to rethink that. I work in the field and I see this every day.

Secondly, I am utterly appalled that what had happened in Umlazi could happen in modern day South Africa today. It is going back to the same old argument that if a woman wears this or that, she is asking to be raped. It is no business of anybody what a woman wears. There is no garment that causes men to rape. Men rape because they choose to rape, not because of anything women do or do not do, or wear or do not wear.

The last issue that I want to raise very quickly in my very short two minutes is the issue of female circumcision. I was utterly horrified to find that it is still practised in South Africa, in Limpopo today. I was utterly horrified. I could not believe that had not been outlawed. I would really like this House to consider bringing a Private Member's Bill or putting a House Bill through the NCOP to outlaw the practice of female circumcision. We have many people moving into South Africa from Northern Africa, from Somalia and places like that, where female circumcision is routinely practised. I think female circumcision it is utterly unnecessary in our society today. It is one of the most terrible mutilations that anybody can experience. It scars and distorts a woman's life forever. I

really believe that South Africa should be outlawing it. I cannot believe that we still condone it. [Time expired]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you for your contribution, Mrs Downs. The next speaker will be the hon Mr B J Msomi from the UDM. I do not see the hon member in the House. We now give the hon MEC an opportunity for five minutes to respond to this debate.

MRS W G THUSI (MEC for Arts, Culture and Tourism): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I want to thank all hon members for their meaningful contribution to this important debate. But, [ngifun' ukuthi](#): to all the women here, *kune* Progressive Women's Movement that is going to be launched in the province during the last weekend of the month. *Onke amakhosikazi ading' ukuba* involved because - *ngimema bon' impela* - it is where we discuss *ama-issues abantu besifazane*, and also where we also discuss representation of women in all the structures. It is the Progressive Women's Movement that is going to assist all the women to make sure that in all government structures, in all the structures in the communities, 50% representation *iyabonakala*. So let's all get involved in the Progressive Women's Movement because *lokhu kuhlanguana akuqali manje, kuqala ngeMarch* – the 1956 march. *Kwakunamakhosikazi ayehlangene* from all political parties, from all walks of life: *emasontweni, emakhishini – bahlanganisa benza FEDS* (Federation of South African Women).

Ngo-1993, ngesikhathi kulaphaya eWorld Trade Centre, amakhosikazi ayehlangene - iWomen's Coalition - from all political parties, from all walks of life. *Ahamba ayosho, ayotshela amadoda ukuthi iRepresentation of Women kula maTalks* is not enough. That is why we had enough women involved in negotiations at the World Trade Centre. It is still relevant that we come together as women, from all walks of life, in a Progressive Women's Movement *sibambisane*.

Angeke ngamphendula ilunga elihloniphekile umam' uMncwango ngoba akahlali eMlazi, yimin' ohlal' eMlazi. Yimina engaziyo ukuthi ngama-80s kwakwenzekani, ngama-early 90s kwakwenzekani, kwenzekeni two weeks back. Angeke ngaqhubeka, yimina engaziyo ukuthi kwenzekeni. I think nale ndlu izoRespector lokhu engikushoyo mina.

The struggle for gender equality is key to the success of our vision for a vibrant democratic society. In the past decade, much of the work in which we have all been

engaged, was focused on women empowerment. While this was important, it is my humble submission that perhaps the time has now come that we, as gender activists, need to broaden the base by targeting men to be part of the struggle for gender equality. I must hasten to state that the focus on men is not intended to undermine the gains made by women over the years in the quest for gender equality, but it is to make sure that both men and women are on board.

Violence cannot be dealt with adequately if men are not part of the processes that seek to eliminate this cry from our society. We all need to commit to ensure that we build strong partnership between men and women and establish a firm foundation for our democracy so that future generations can be proud of the role we played in the true formation of gender equality.

Siyamenywa-ke sonke ukuthi sibe yingxenywe yokuthi silwele inkululeko yokulingana ngokobibili nenkululeko yokulwa nodlame oluqondaniswe ngqo kubantu besifazane nezingane. Asiphumeni siyobambisana emiphakathini yethu. I thank you.

8.6 First Quarterly Report on Service Delivery by MEC for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs

MR M E MTHIMKHULU (MEC for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs): Thank you very much. Mr Speaker and hon members of this august House, before I begin with the quarterly report of the department, I would like to introduce Advocate Modidima Mannya who was appointed by the Premier to be the new Head of the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs with effect from yesterday, Thursday, 1 August 2007. Advocate Mannya is that young handsome man seated on my extreme left. The new HOD brings with him an invaluable wealth of experience in terms of administration in the public service and we hope that his stewardship of the department will see it responding to the enormous challenges with vigour as we intensify the agrarian revolution in our province.

It gives me great pleasure to be once again afforded an opportunity to report to hon members on the corrective measures our department is employing to address concerns raised in resolutions of this House and the forensic report conducted by provincial Treasury.

Hon members may recall that something of a revolution has taken place since the internal audit report was made public and this saw the department being almost totally overhauled.

It is indeed a well-known fact that the department has been going through difficult times. However, even during the most difficult times, we were mindful of the challenges, hence we refused to be held hostage by the past.

We have always approached the future with optimism and we are governed by the belief that tomorrow will always be better than yesterday. Indeed, today is better than yesterday. We are of the firm belief that we should approach the challenges of driving development, a task entrusted to us by the electorate. I can say with certainty that, given an arsenal of measures we have deployed to turn around the department, the future looks much better. Having said so, I must hasten to add that the tabling of the quarterly report today is neither an attempt to claim easy victories, nor to tell lies. I urge hon members that when they exercise their sharp minds on the subject at hand, they should note that the challenges were immense, but never insurmountable.

Aristotle, the Greek philosopher and also a student of Plato, observed that excellence is not an event, but a habit. Allow us to add that, indeed, excellence is not an event, but a process.

The quarterly report which I am presenting today convinces me that we in the department have paved the way for the habit of excellence. This habit guides us in all our dealings and endeavours. As you will note from the report, we have sought to give attention to things that will make the biggest impact on our turnaround strategy. As they say, if you lock three or four lawyers in one house and ask for an opinion on any given subject, you are indeed bound to get four radically different views. Equally, I expect that in your perusal of this report, some of you would not resist the temptation to observe that we should have started by fixing problem X and not Y.

However, in our dealings, as we embarked on our corrective measures, we found ourselves bound to take a lesson from an American scholar and a philosopher of note, Waldo Emerson, when he observed that things that matter the most must never be at the mercy of things that matter the least. When presenting my budget speech in this House on 30 April 2007, I made several commitments to turn this department around. I

am happy to report that the first three months of this financial year have been exactly about that.

This department has made major strides towards changing, with the main focus on the following areas to be elucidated further in my report:

- Financial performance
- Improving service delivery

Please allow me to present the first quarterly performance report of the department.

Turnaround Strategy

The main focus of the turnaround strategy was on addressing the following findings of the Internal Audit Report:

- Lack of supporting documents
- Ineffective asset management
- Ineffective valuation of biological assets
- Uncleared suspense accounts
- Inability to verify leave entitlement
- No monthly reconciliation between Persal and BAS
- Understatement of departmental revenue
- Non-disclosure of lease commitments
- Voted funds not surrendered to Treasury at year-end
- Irregular expenditure
- Transfers to households
- Projects

- Nguni Project

I am happy to inform the House that a process has been put in place to improve the department's capacity in finance management, with an emphasis on transaction verification and finance record keeping. In this regard the department has achieved the following:

- Finalised the record management structure and training of all heads of sections on record keeping
- Drafted the Asset Management Policy (incorporating biological assets)
- Perform monthly BAS – Hardcat reconciliation
- Scheduled Compulsory Standard Chart of Accounts (SCOA) for all managers in August and September this year
- Updated the biological asset register
- Instituted a monitoring process to clear suspense accounts on a monthly basis
- Implemented a leave book system to control leave. A compulsory leave audit will be performed quarterly.
- Perform monthly BAS-Persal reconciliation
- Perform monthly reconciliation between revenue collected and revenue paid over to Treasury
- Updated lease asset register
- Compiled a list of all irregular expenditure items
- Finalised the Crop and Livestock Business Plans and tabled before the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture recently
- Implemented budgetary control measures to curb over-expenditure
- Identified project auditors to monitor massification

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- Completed a verified list of beneficiaries and cattle distributed
 - Drafted a revised policy on indigenous livestock

Departmental Finances

Before I present the state of finances in the department, I would firstly report on the thorough budget review exercise that my department went through to align our budgets with service delivery. This was done in line with the revised departmental strategic outlook and turnaround strategy referred to above.

This lengthy process of budget review was finalised at the end of June 2007, except for the actual capturing of the budget in Basic Account System (BAS) which only started in July this year.

Decisions were taken by the Departmental Management Committee (DMCO) regarding allocation of any additional funding to some programmes and sub-programmes (within available departmental budget) and reprioritisation of some funding.

- The entire budget allocated on the BAS system was removed with the assistance of national Treasury.
- A template was developed to capture actual expenditure, projections and budget. The information in this template is used in the monthly reporting to monitor expenditure on the allocated budget to curb over-expenditure.

Revenue

- The departmental revenue collected for the 1st quarter amounted to R5,2 million, which is 8,6% higher than 1st quarter revenue projections.
- This was due primarily to over-collection in respect of prior year debts and this is a repeat of previous years' trends indicating a conservative approach to budget and projection of revenue.
- The department, in agreement with provincial Treasury, will be revising revenue projections from the 2nd quarter of the 2007/2008 financial year.

Budget performance

- 1st quarter expenditure for the Vote as a whole compared to projections is on target at 100,6%.
- However, there are fluctuations between programmes with spending on Programme 2 (Agricultural Development Services) far lower than projections and spending on Programme 4 (Conservation) far higher than projections.
- The slow rate of spending in respect of Programme 2 is a direct result of the intervention strategy and the comprehensive budget review that are currently underway in the department.
- A decision was taken to review and consolidate the budget, as well as the procurement processes in the department. This has had an impact on the level of spending in the 1st quarter.
- The reasons for the high 1st quarter spending in respect of Programme 4 are two-fold:
 - Firstly, Treasury approval was obtained to transfer R8,4 million to the public entity, Mjindi Farming (Pty) Ltd, which was not catered for in the budget or the projections. These funds were shifted from Programme 2 to Programme 4.
 - Secondly, the department paid the 2nd quarterly payment of approximately R77 million to our public entity Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife in June instead of July as was projected.
 - The projections for the 2nd quarter have been adjusted accordingly.

Projected end-of-year Financial Position:

The department is projecting a slight underspending of R3,8 million by year-end. However, as mentioned, as part of the intervention strategy, the department has completed a comprehensive budget review.

The process of uploading the revised budget onto BAS is near completion and the

department will then need to apply virement and adjust its projections for the remaining three quarters of the year.

Conditional Grants

- 1st quarter expenditure for both conditional grants is extremely low compared to projections, although this slow rate of spending on conditional grants in the 1st quarter is a repeat of previous years.
- This is due mainly to delays in procurement due to the intervention strategy. This should improve drastically from the 2nd quarter.

Departmental Structure Realignment

The department, in conjunction with the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), recently completed a high-level review of the structure. This will be followed by a further drill-down into senior and middle management posts and eventually the entire departmental structure. This will allow the department to realign the structure with its departmental objectives and budget.

This realignment will be followed by a strategic planning session scheduled to take place at the end of August 2007, which will be closely followed by the extension officers' workshops and training.

Extension officers have been identified for specific training in the commodity that is relevant to the priority projects that have been identified by the regions. This will ensure that everyone in the department, from the MEC right down to where delivery happens, is singing from the same hymn book, so to speak.

Improving Service Delivery

Business Plans for Departmental Programmes

I am pleased to report that as committed in my budget policy speech in April this year, a detailed template for business plans for large projects has been put in place with input from the provincial Treasury intervention team.

At the beginning of this financial year the department committed itself to four high-impact

programmes to drive its mandate in the province. Sazibophezela ukuthi sizoqinisa kakhulu ezinhlelweni ezine ukuqinisa umsebenzi wokuthi lo mnyango usebenze abantu bakithi bazithole kahle izidingo.

- Mushroom Programme. Umsebenzi ophathelene nokutshalwa kwamakhowe.
- Livestock Rehabilitation Programme. Udaba lwemfuyo.
- Corridor and Massification Programme. Ukuqinisa intuthuko kulezo zindawo ezinemigudu yentuthuko njengemigwaqo, njalo-njalo.
- Food Security Programme. Nodaba lokuqinisa ukuthi kube nokudla kusiFundazwe njengoba amalunga ahloniphekile kade eyixoxa le ndaba kulolu daba obeludingadwa, luphakanyiswe abahlonishwa beNADECO.

These programmes have now been strategically condensed to two programmes, namely crop production and indigenous livestock production

The department has prepared a thorough programme business plan to actualise the crop and livestock programmes. This plan details clear objectives and strategies the department will tackle over the next three years.

Crop Massification

The important and hard lessons that we have learnt to date on our crop massification projects are as follows: We have successfully shown that crops can be grown at commercial scale on communal land, yet we have not developed sustainable institutional mechanisms to put farmers firmly in control of their own land. We must first focus on building social infrastructure to create a foundation for sustainable production.

In doing this, we must focus geographically on the Mbo district, the Makhathini Flats and the African Renaissance Road Upgrading (ARRUP) Transport Corridors which represent the most important single infrastructure investment by our government in very poor rural areas.

Le misebenzi esihlela ukuthi siwumnyango siyenze, sifuna ukugxila kakhulu kulezo zifunda ezikhonjwe uhulumeni njengezishayeke kakhulu kububha, lezo esithi u-Operation lo awuqinise kakhulu kuzona. Sibuye futhi sigxile kakhulu nalaphana

endaweni - koMakhathini Flats lapho sifuna ukuthi siqinise lolu hlelo lwezinhlelo zomnyango zokuthi lapho kunentuthuko khona siyiqinise kakhulu khona ezemigwaqo lapho ezikhona, bese siqhamuka nezinhlelo zezolimo ukuze intuthuko yenzeke ngendawo ngendawo, kungenzeki intuthuko yodwa kusale okunye. Yilokho esikwenzayo singumnyango.

This would enable Zimbabwe road contractors to exit the programme and enter sustainable agricultural production, thus allowing 20 000 other poor and vulnerable households to enter the programme and also become road contractors.

In these corridors we will identify, empower and train farmer associations and women's savings clubs to become self-sufficient agricultural co-operatives and, when they are fully established and functionally sustainable, we will consolidate them into district secondary co-operatives which could mill or wash and prepack maize and beans for suppliers or end markets.

Kuzobaluleka kakhulu ukuthi kulezi zindawo lapho siyisa khona lezi nhlelo senze ukuthi amaCooperatives alezo ndawo akwazi ukuthi athuthuke. Kukwazi ukuthi imisebenzi abayikhiqizayo emasimini ikwazi ukuthi ipakishwe, ifakwe, ukuze ikwazi ukuthi iyongena nasezimakethe. Bakwazi ukusimama ngoba siwuMnyango sifuna ukuthi abantu bangagcini nje kuphela belimela ukuphekela imindeni yabo, kodwa balimele futhi nokuthi bangene ohlelweni lwentuthuko yomnotho.

This will require that the department re-orientates and retrains the extension service along commodity lines, e.g. maize, beans, high-value vegetables and sugar according to the bio-resource regions.

We will also place greater emphasis on participatory extension processes in conjunction with strong social facilitation by instituting strong economic, technical and social capacity building programmes in order to strengthen the institutional capacity of local farmers to:

- Identify at least 500 ha of under-utilised productive agricultural land in each corridor per annum that will unlock an additional 5 500 ha of land in 11 corridors or an additional 22 000 tons of maize and 4 950 tons of dry beans;
- Plan their own agricultural areas with support and advice from extension staff;

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- Plough, fertilise and plant staple crops such as maize and beans and grazing pastures themselves in order to achieve a culture of self-sufficiency, and
 - Transform themselves into economically sustainable primary, secondary and tertiary (banking) co-operatives.

Finally, we will continue to supply beneficiary cooperatives with subsidised short-term agricultural inputs and mechanisation support, which will be one to three years, and medium to long-term infrastructure beneficiation and marketing support on an agreed diminishing basis over three to five years.

Livestock

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs has made significant progress in its approach to upgrade cattle farming on communal lands. Livestock owners have been organised into livestock associations to be completed in 2007. Many livestock associations have now developed business plans which place them in control of their dip tank rehabilitation programmes. The Dip Tank Rehabilitation Programme will prevent the annual loss of 20% of communal herd to tick-borne diseases (equivalent loss of 142 000 ha of maize) and consolidate and create 41 livestock associations representing 1 200 dip tank committees serving approximately 300 cattle each.

The department will identify and prioritise communal livestock areas for joint government intervention, as well as identify and support dip tank committees and livestock associations in order to achieve consolidation and conversion into livestock co-operatives.

As with the crop programme, this will require instituting strong economic, technical and social capacity building programmes in order to strengthen the institutional capacity of local livestock farmers. Livestock associations will be empowered to plan their livestock breeding and production strategies; rehabilitate their dip tanks and manage livestock diseases with support of veterinary technicians and state vets, as well as improve their own grazing strategies and implement intensive pasture systems or more appropriate stock-flow programmes.

This will be achieved by:

- The supply of good cattle, goat and poultry genetics to livestock associations and the rehabilitation of dip tanks and supply of dip chemicals for dip tank committees;
- The training of livestock associations to prepare their own grazing plans and breeding plans and to practically demonstrate the superiority of indigenous genetics through their inherent resistance to local natural challenges;
- The supply of concentrates, licks and hay to livestock associations in times of drought or fire-related crises as well as the mobilisation of the regional Working on Fire (WoF) brigades to train livestock associations to safely burn their own farm fire-breaks; njengoba nazi bahlonishwa ukuthi sibhekene nenkanankana njengamanje. Imiphefumulo ilahlekile, impahla ilahlekile. Sifuna ukukuqinisa ukufundiswa kwabantu bakithi, ikakhulukazi abalimi, ukuthi bangenza kanjani ukwakha lezi zinto okuthiwa amaFire-breaks, kusho ukuthi ukubabela benzele ukuthi umlilo uma uba khona ungavela ubhebhetheke nje ucekele yonke into phansi njengoba sibonile kwenzeka kulezi zinsuku ezimbalwa esiphuma kuzona.
- The supply to livestock associations of appropriate fencing and building materials and training to allow them to properly manage grazing cycles and for proper disease prevention;
- The training of volunteers, including women and youth from livestock associations, to become primary animal healthcare technicians as part of the government's voluntary National Youth Service Programme; sizokwenza lokho. Sifuna ukuthi siqeqeshe ikakhulukazi omama, abantu besifazane, kanye nentsha ukuthi babambe iqhaza kulezi fundo zokuthi izilwane zinakekelwa kanjani ngoba akusizi noma ungaba khona umhlambi wezinkomo ekhaya, noma wezimbuzi kodwa uma lungekho ulwazi lokuthi yizini izinto izinkomo lapho ekhaya ezizidingayo; imijovo inakekelwa kanjani, njalo-njalo. Yizo zonke izinto esesisezinhlweni zokuthi sizenze ukuze siqinisekise ukuthi lokhu kukhuthaza kwethu ukufuya kubalimi bakithi makuqine ngempela.
- The rejuvenation of pride and dignity in communal livestock farming by holding

an annual KZN African Breeders Showcase and Auction as an alternative annual highlight to the KZN Royal Agricultural Show; [sihlela lapho ukuthi sizoke sibe nombukiso omkhulu lapho abalimi bakithi, abafuyi bakithi abancane bakwazi ukuthi bazobukisa ngempahla yabo njengendlela yokubakhuthaza.](#)

- The training of livestock associations in various anti-stock theft strategies and the establishment of district communal stock theft committees in partnership with the provincial SAPS Stock Theft Unit and, finally,
- The construction of local abattoirs, mobile butcheries and tanneries in partnership with both district secondary and regional tertiary livestock associations, as well as international buyers of 'natural' or hormone-free beef, goat meat, leather products for clothing items, seats in luxury vehicles.

Service Delivery Programme

As indicated earlier in my presentation, our key focus in the 1st quarter was on developing systems, strategies and business plans for turning the department around. However, the department continued in its efforts to deliver on its mandate.

In terms of agriculture, the department has been involved in the following activities:

- Harvesting of beans in Mbabazane: 48 tons of harvested beans to the value of R208 820 has been sold to Natal Drybeans, Beannex and Emtshezi Farm Supply. In oKhahlamba, 20 tons of beans to the value of R126 000 has been sold to Estcourt Farmers Supply, Pre-packers at Mnambithi and some sold locally. [Ngithanda ukusho Somlomo ukuthi isibonelo: ubhontshisi owatshalwa laphana eMbazwana udayisiwe impela eMbabazane kuMasipala waseMbabazane ngaseMtshezi. Udayisiwe ubhontshisi obubiza ngaphezu kuka-R200 000 wadayiswa ngabalimi bethu laphayana kwaNatal Dry Beans nakwaBennetts \(??\) nakwamanye amapulazi aseMtshezi. Kanjalo nalaphana oKhahlamba, uvuniwe impela ubhontshisi wadayiswa kulezi mboni esengizishilo la, okuphendula-ke umbuzo kubahlonishwa ababethi: uphi ubhontshisi owatshalwa? Nanku-ke omunye, ukwazile ukuthi uvunwe.](#)
- Planting of sugarcane on the South Coast

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- Irrigation projects
 - Infrastructure engineering projects
 - Land dare
 - Farmer support and development
 - Extension service
 - Research and development

In terms of the environment component, the department has been involved in the following activities:

- Finalising the KZN Waste Management Bill
- Recycling projects
- Dissemination of the South Africa waste information system
- Air quality monitoring
- Environmental Impact Assessments
- Food security programmes

The department initiated a process of updating the KZN Coastal Management Policy. [Bahlonishwa](#), we are working right round the clock to try and find the strategy to address the unfolding crisis on our coast as we have noticed these days [ugu lwethu laphana bakwethu ngenxa yale climate change, ulwandle luyasondela, ugu lwethu luyadilika. Kukhona izindlu laphayana ethekwini namabhilidi ulwandle oselufikile kuzona. Ngakho-ke, abahlonishwa ngiyacela ukuthi sibambisane nabo ekuqhamukeni namasu okuthi le nkinga sizoyenzenjani.](#)

The Invasive Alien Species Programme has cleared 5 031 ha and created 1 452 jobs. We have manufactured 1 400 coffins and more than 100 beneficiaries have been assisted in burying their loved ones. We have also identified school desks and benches as potential value adding opportunities. [La mabhokisi esesiwakhile akhiwa ngalezi hlahla](#)

lezi ezingosandanezwe, ezingafuneki, kunokuba sizilahle sasesiqala ukuthi akube khona into ezokwaxhiwa ngalezi hlahla lezi esizama ukulwa nazo eziwukhula lokufika.

Mr Speaker, I must crave your indulgence. I am now winding up. It is because I am reporting for the entire department which is Agriculture, Environment and well as Conservation, so that members understand that I am not reporting only on one component.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon MEC, you might have noted that I stopped the clock to give you a chance to speak.

MR M E MTHIMKHULU (MEC for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs): Thank you very much for that, sir. It is because I was reading the faces of some hon members ...
[Interjections]

Interaction with Key Stakeholders

During the past three months, we have interacted with a number of key stakeholders in both portfolio committees of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs. These include the KwaZulu-Natal Agricultural Union, which is mainly commercial farmers and, by the way, we have now resuscitated relations between the department and commercial farmers, because to us it does not make sense not to work with commercial farmers when we are saying we want to see our subsistence farmers and emerging farmers graduating and ultimately becoming commercial farmers. We have achieved that resuscitation of relations between ourselves as the department and commercial farmers in this sector.

We have also met with the National Farmers Union (NAFU) and the Landless People's Movement. Our meeting with the Landless People's Movement was a groundbreaking meeting because this movement has for years been saying that the government does not want to meet with them, but we did meet with them and we had very fruitful and cordial discussions.

In addition, I have also addressed an extended session of the KwaZulu-Natal House of Traditional Leaders during its recent sitting in Ulundi. We went to Ulundi and were able to explain, clarify and give elaborate reports on what programmes the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs has. I am happy that some *amaKhosi*, who are also members of this House, were also there. We had a wonderful meeting because

amaKhosi are also key to the success of the agricultural revolution that we are pursuing. [Sahlangana kahle noNdabezitha. Kwamnandi, sabusa kwayinqaba. Kwamnandi ngendlela eyisimanga.](#)

As recent as last Friday, the value-adding component of our Agricultural Development Support Services (ADSS) was unveiled at uThungulu, at Empangeni, to be precise. We launched what we believe is the first ever African traditional food recipe book and I have given you a copy with the compliments of the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs.

[Ngiyabonga mam' uNgcobo. Ngiyabona isithupha sisho khona ukuthi cha, kuhamba kahle kuyaqhutshekwa manje. Kuyaqala ngqa – uye angihleke-ke umhlonishwa uGwala uma ngisho njalo, uma ngithi kuyaqala ngqa.](#)

This is history. We have never had such a book in our history. This is a major milestone in the first three months of our new financial year. The book is co-funded by our department and the Flemish government of Belgium.

Progress in respect of the Establishment of an Effective and Efficient Appeal Panel to consider Environmental Appeals and make Recommendations thereon to the MEC

When I took office late in 2006, I was briefed by the Premier and the staff from the department on the backlog of environmental appeals and the detrimental effect that this backlog was having on development.

In addition to ensuring that appeals are effectively and efficiently dealt with, the appointment of a new Appeals Panel has resulted in an opportunity being provided for lawyers from previously disadvantaged groups to gain valuable skills in the area of environmental law.

The province, and the country as a whole, can certainly do with more skilled environmental lawyers to advise industry and developers to help ensure sound environmental practices.

Nine appeals have already been dispensed with this year and it is envisaged that a further five will be finalised by the end of this month. This process is very laborious

when we process these appeals. Sometimes you become unpopular with developers, but for the sake of environment we often have to take other decisions which are unpopular, but correct. We have to take those decisions.

With the new Appeals Panel up and running, the backlog will soon be a thing of the past. The panel will be considering appeals as and when they come in. Minister van Schalkwyk, my colleague at national level praised the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs in KZN for having attended to the backlog which was at about 1 700 when I got in. Just recently it was at a level of about 300. This will assist in ensuring that development is not unnecessarily delayed, which is critical for the growth of the province, especially in the run-up to 2010.

It is believed that KZN is one of the first to finalise the appointment of its Appeals Panel in terms of the new environmental regulations and, in addition, simultaneously ensure the capacitating of lawyers from previously disadvantaged groups in the field of environmental law.

In conclusion, despite the enormous administrative challenges imposed on us by the turnaround strategy, this quarterly report clearly shows that, given more time and support from this House, we will be able to turn the corner. As I am talking to you, our managers, the entire senior management is undergoing what we call competency assessment. They are all undergoing that process and as the new HOD is in place now, we will be seeing to it that the department is led by people who are competent enough to maximise delivery for our people.

Our motto is "[Masilime siqobe indlala nezifo KwaZulu-Natali.](#)"

[Ngiyabonga kakhulu Somlomo ukungibezelela kwakho namalunga ahloniphekile.](#)

I thank you all. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, we take this opportunity to thank the hon MEC for the report and, by the same token, we thank all of you who contributed to today's debate. In particular, I would like to congratulate Advocate Modidima Mannyana on his appointment as captain of the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs. We hope, Advocate Mannyana, that with your stewardship and your legal background, the department will be more legalwise.

I have two announcements. The first announcement is to all Whips and Acting Whips. This is from the Chief Whip of the Legislature, hon Xaba. Whips Forum members are informed that there will be a special meeting in the Chamber immediately after this sitting.

The second announcement is from the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on the Premier and Royal Household Portfolio Committee. The special meeting scheduled for today, 2 August 2007, after the sitting, has been postponed *sine die*. This is from the hon Mike Tarr, the Chairperson.

I will now allow the hon Premier, through one of the MECs present here, to make announcements, if any.

MS N P NKONYENI (MEC for Health): Mr Speaker, there are no announcements.

The House was adjourned at 15:59.