

Motlotlegi Mmusu Kgotla, I sombrelly take this panorama to bring to the entire house warm heated greetings. Ek wil graag elkeen van U hartlik welkom heet in die gerespekteerde huis.

Madam Speaker, as I face this august House, I wish to bring forth my sincere apologies to the people of the North West Province on how the past has unfolded in terms of service delivery and maladministration in this department. Today we acknowledge gaps and shortfalls from the past while assuring the public, an effective and efficient delivery of agricultural programs in a manner that will grow public and farmers confidence thus reducing the trust deficit. I take upon oneself and as part servant leadership that never again, shall the missteps of the past be repeated. Honourable Speaker, we are aware that when plunder and pillage becomes a way of life for a group of men in a society, over the course of time they create for themselves a legal system that authorises it and a moral code that glorifies it, and that has to be stopped abruptly so.

Honourable Speaker, the presentation of this pecuniary plan for the 6th Administration traces its genesis to the potent year of 1994.

That is the year in which **Isithwalandwe**, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela addressed the nation as the first President of a Democratic South Africa.

On that day, he said:

“You have mandated us to change South Africa from a country in which the majority lived with little hope, to one in which they can live and work with dignity and unity, with a sense of self-esteem and confidence in the future”.

The department venerated during the month of July, to beat the drum over his inheritance through many positive deeds. A week- long full of judicious activities in Matlosana Local Municipality, extol led Hundred and Fifty (150) households gardens and led to adoption of three community centres were in the fight against hunger. Conjointly seedlings were granted to other district for this just cause. We give praise to all Members of this house and all our partners that participated in this programme. Indeed, it was momentous keenly to hike awareness of the collective responsibility to fabricate a society based on the superlative in terms of political and human freedoms, socio-economic rights, value systems and identity.

Honourable Speaker and the house at large, the year 2019 has been avowed to be the year of **UNITED ACTION TO GROW SOUTH AFRICA.**

Our country celebrates 25 years of democracy. We should be the first to acknowledge that oodles still need to be done together to give substance to the promise of a better life for all. Today we are gathered here to remember where we come from and where we are heading as a department.

Honourable Speaker, Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful and most noble employment of mankind dating back from the bible days. This was in like manner palpable during the State of the Nation Address 2019 delivered by the President Cyril Ramaphosa, who commanded for the more onerous and rigorous action towards implementation of the new priorities including agriculture. These aspirations and yearnings are steered towards reducing poverty, unemployment and inequality.

As part of the new dawn to grow the province through agriculture and exuding from the pronouncement by Honourable Premier Tebogo Job Mokgoro in his State of The Province Address 2019, the department will champion economic growth and transformation while creating 3 000 jobs. This will be done in a true sense of Khawuleza, because indeed time is against us to take services to our number one priority, our farmers. Our farmers can no longer be regarded as hewers of wood and drawers of water.

Madam Speaker, Food insecurity still reigns in the province, where 36% of the households still go to bed without any meal. Competitiveness and profitability of the sector also warrants game changing interventions collectively for farmers in as far as creation on of new developmental funding avenues, penetrating the market, developing infrastructure, support capacity building& training, climate change mitigation& adaptation, technology transfer and trade assurance.

In commencing the 6th term of Administration and as precursor to the Medium Term Strategic Framework (2020/2024)the department has prioritised high impact programs to our farmers, These programs are in tandem with increased and diversified agricultural value chain output, expansion into agro-processing utilising land accessible in rural areas.

Motlotlegi Mmusu Kgotla re bidisitse maswi mme a bela, jaanong ntle le tshenyoy ya nako ntetle go begela Ntlokgolo ka le di la rona le re le abetswengmongwageng 2019/2020 ono wa dichelete. Gatwe Mmupudu ga o butsweng go ya kaditakatso tsa tshwene mme fela bonnye jo o bofiwang o tshwanelwa ke go bodirisa ka botlhale le matsetseleko a katse. Jaanong ledi la rona la monongwaga le eme jaana:

Budget Allocation Per Programme Item: 2019/2020

Programme	Allocation	Amount in words
	R'000	
1. Administration	294 085	Two hundred and ninety-four million and eighty-five thousand rands
2. Sustainable Resource Strategic Objective Management	34 722	Thirty-four million seven hundred and twenty-two thousand rands
3. Farmer Support And Development	421 405	Four hundred and twenty-one million four hundred five thousand rands
4. Veterinary Services	141 907	One hundred and forty-one million nine hundred seven thousand rands
5. Research And Technology Development Services	67 487	Sixty-seven million four hundred and eighty-seven thousand rands
6. Agricultural Economics Services	16 461	Sixteen million four hundred and sixty-one thousand rands
7. Structured Agricultural Education and	112 136	One hundred twelve million one hundred and

Training		thirty-six thousand rands
8. Rural Development Coordination	77 508	Seventy-seven million five hundred eight thousand rands
TOTAL	1 165 711	One billion One hundred and Sixty-five million Seven hundred Eleven thousand Rands

Honourable Speaker it should be stated that the Department continues to punch above its weight in aspects relating to 30 days payments, supplier performance & contract management and revenue enhancement strategy that has been yielding positive results thus far.

The Department has managed to collect over R 2 000 000 threshold target and intensified internal controls and risk management for improved audit outcomes. Honourable Speaker the true measure of our success will be the number of people touched and perhaps transformed by our success in ensuring the employment of suitably **qualified women** especially at senior level and we will be aggressively **biased** towards people living with disability at all levels. Honourable Members today in our house we have a young guest Mr. Letlhogonolo Maleka from Mmatshphe Village who is a person living with disability and just graduated from the North West

University with a Degree in Agricultural Economics. Now the Department is clear when coming to being prejudiced towards people living with disability, we will absorb and train him for future endeavours.

Honourable Members and the house at large let me pontificate a moot point that is close to my heart of developing our kids by offering Internships, Learner-ships, Bursaries, Training, Induction as well as Extension Recovery Plan. The secret of freedom lies in educating people, whereas the secret of tyranny is in keeping them ignorant. To date 120 unemployed agricultural graduates undergoes rigorous farm experience to become future commercial farmers, 15 needy yet bright students were supported to study agriculture in our colleges for the next three years. We have moved swiftly by appointing five (5) young candidate engineers thus acquiring the much needed experience internally. Honourable Speaker let me also report to the esteemed house that the Departmental Organisational Structure has been concluded while filling the critical posts for effective service delivery is ensuing. The Department as **benefactor** of this Expanded Public Works Program (EPWP) has successfully achieved its targets and in going forward **we intend to look into the sculpt or model by extending the length of these champions contracts to**

possibly two full years pending consultations with all relevant stakeholders. In this way we will be teaching them **how to fish and not giving them the fish.**

Honourable Speaker, it is said the history of the land is etched in the faces of the farmers who till it. Now in mapping the future, the department will roll-out a total of twelve (12) land care projects and rehabilitate 3 000 hectares of agricultural land. We comprehend the impediments of drought in the province, and have spent R6.1million in the past year to supply 48 000 bags of emergency fodder to hardest hit areas in the province.

The Department will not cease to seek support from the National Department on additional funds in this regard. Plans are afoot to mitigate the effects of climate change through climate SMART agriculture such as the roll-out of awareness, conservation farming and use of drought and heat resistant cultivators.

Bagaetsho seno e tla nna selomo diro ka re itse gore ditlhare le dimelatse di sa siamang, go thata go ka di fedisa ka gangwe fela. Honourable Speaker, for the current fiscal year, 8 550 small-farmers holder will benefit through agricultural advice and 2 300 through production inputs support while 60 infrastructure projects will be set up/or instituted. Food Security Programme has been intensified for this year; thus far the department has

been nomadic by rolling out the project during the month of February 2019 at Robega Village, Matlwang in Dr.Kenneth Kaunda district with food security packages to reduce hunger at household level.

Honourable Members the Department in our quest for **Household Food Security,will** reach out to 2 400 needy and food insecure households through provision of the agricultural packages. A crop production plan is being rolled-out to plant 20 000 Hectares on grains across the province during this season, whilst also diversifying to Cotton & Barley, and further looking into other perennial crops such as Olives and Peacan Nut. **Furthermore, to sustain the Livestock Development Program,** the department will intensify beef production to small scale farmers through livestock improvement plans.

Honourable Members, the department has commenced with the process to intensify beef production to Small-Holders in partnership with Agricultural Research Council (ARC) through Kaonafatso Livestock improvement (sekai: Kaonafatso Ya Dikgomo) which is linked to existing Abattoirs and Feedlots. Partnerships are in progress with Beef Stud-Breeders on genetic improvement as well as the advancement of Smallholder Dairy Farmers to link-up with envisaged processing enterprises. Goat Massification

Programme will be explored not only for Food Security, but also for purposes of export markets.

Honourable Premier, a total of twenty nine (29) farmers in the province benefitted from the Beef Bull Subsidy Scheme this year. Honourable Speaker fiscal year 19/20 will see the Department intensifying the Nguni Model and gradually and carefully introducing other different breeds within a return rate over stipulated period to extent this to other farmers. Our farmers should be taught that we cannot operate on a ~~%Mahala+~~ mode anymore.

Further investments will be made over the term period on infrastructure maintenance of the five (5) government owned livestock research farms/breeding centres as well as the refurbishment of Research and Technology building including equipping inclusive of the soil science laboratory in Potchefstroom. Motlotlegi Mmusakgotla, Lefapha le tla leka ka bojotlhe go tsosolo sa the renowned Taung Irrigation Scheme sako Taung ka go leka go thusakaditlamelo/didiriswatsa go lemagammogo le go bitsabotlhebabamaleba go buisana ka kaonafatso ya sekeme seno sa Taung go tsenyeletsa le Dikgosi.

Our Veterans embodies the ideals upon which our country was liberated unconventionally so 25 years ago. Honourable members this will see the Department rolling out the Veterans Development Program to facilitate access to land and developing agricultural enterprises. Meanwhile, the Farmer Register Program in collaboration with Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, and Rural Development with Statistics South Africa will unfold to ensure credible data on farmer informatics for strategic intervention and as a decision in the next two years.

Honorable Members, the department continues to make great progress to ensure that all **threats to animal health and food safety** are detected early and dealt with decisively precisely for economically important animal diseases such as Avian Influenza, African Swine Fever and Foot and Mouth Diseases.

In this regard, **12 230** epidemiological, 3000 export certifications, a minimum of 60% of hygiene compliance and 145 000 laboratory tests will be vigilantly conducted for bio-security promotion.

Honorable Speaker, we are also **tapping into the glacial industry of auctions (hostile)** and we want our people to really penetrate this souk. However in trying to address the injustices of the past in this competitive industry, we are going to have a Mentor . Mentee programme for four of our

Mentors who will then funnel and guide the other four youth we are going to select very soon, to stimulate rural economy through Black Auctioneering Services for Black Industrialists. During 2019/20 financial year, department will radically fast-track implementation of Government Led Market Programme to allow our Producers to market their produce directly to government Departments. On the same breadth let me take this prime time to acknowledge our 19 year old farmer, Mr. Thabo Dithakgwe from Morokweng Village who is our guest up there in the gallery. He continues to do well in his farming journey specializing in the legendary Bonsmara Cattles. He is also currently attached to our Agricultural College in Potchefstroom.

Honorable Premier and Deputy Speaker, it is not wrong to be officious and dogmatic in trying to curb the wrong that has happened in the past but a seismic shift should prevail if we are ever going to meet the demands of our farmers. The Department will champion as part of SOPA pronouncement, the Provincial Summit on Agriculture to be convened in October 2019 to map out opportunities for job creation and economic transformation in Agriculture through identified funding source from United Nations. Again in our midst from the very same organization we are excited to have the

Strategic Director . Dr. Simphiwe Dwyilli in the house today. Furthermore, plans are in place for investment on Agro-processing.

A turn-around plan in collaboration with Council of Scientific Industrial Research (CSIR) to complete fourteen (14) multi-year AgroProcessing projects is in process. Other plans include creation of partnership opportunities with the City of Matlosana Local Municipality Fresh Produce Market and relocation of Mogwase Farmers Market to Madibeng Municipality given the comparative advantage of horticulture. Furthermore investment on a Dairy Processing Plant in Ngaka Modiri Molema District, Dr Poultry Hatchery in Dr Kenneth Kaunda and Feed-mill in Dr Kenneth Kaunda through blended funding.

As make mentioned by the famous scholar and Professor Ali Mazrui, %As Africans we should produce what we consume and not consume what we do not produce+.

Honorable Members it is said investment in knowledge pays the best interest, now true to this maxim we have a fully structured Agricultural educationthat saw about 1435 farmers across the province been trained, while 150 of them were provided with technical agricultural mechanization. We are proud honorable members to make mention that 78 candidates for agricultural diplomas both in Taung and Potchefstroom have been enrolled

for this fiscal year. The year 19/20 will see the Department running with high cadence in establishing **youth mechanization cooperatives**.

The department in consultation with the Youth has set clear target of one mechanization centre per District in partnership with the private sector for the provision and maintenance of the mechanization, agricultural equipments and planting services to farmers in local communities. These centers present an invaluable opportunity for precision agriculture and innovative 4th industrial revolution in agriculture for our youth. Furthermore the Agriparks programme will be at the utopia in our plans. More wherewithal (resources) will be allocated to the Kgora Farmer Training Centre as a multiple enterprise & value chain.

Plans are being implemented to operationalize the Springbokpan AgriPark and commence with grain storage during this financial year. More focus will be given to the Kgora Farmer Training Centre in Mafikeng, to be developed into a multiple enterprise and a Value Chain AgriPark through respective commodity cooperatives for job creation.

Honourable speaker and the esteemed house at large new markets could be created by rural and land potentials which will lead to the decrease of many social ills and malaise. Lest we forget that the farmer is the only man

in the entire broad economy, who buys everything at retail, sells everything at wholesale and pays the freight in both ways.

Honorable Members this simply states that during our programs, initiatives and policies at the forefront will be the wellbeing and the interest of our farmers. Honorable Members the department will support partnerships in relation to the identified key mega projects for possible investment project in the Program for various commodities. The department will also focus more on establishing and maintaining partnerships with relevant stakeholders in line with the Provincial Investment Book. Madam Speaker, North West Province is predominantly rural and we attest to the interconnectedness between agricultural and land reform.

Let me applaud the wisdom of our President to reconfigure the three (3) mandates on agriculture, land reform and rural development. My Department will ensure effective collaboration on delivery of these mandates at the provincial level to ensure growth and transformation of the sector while addressing the triple challenges we are facing.

Motlotlegi Mmusa Kgotla, a ke tseye tshono eno go gatelela gore ntle le kitlano le tirisano mmogo ga re kitla re bona maduo a a namatshang mo kgwethlong eno ya rona ya go isa ditirelo ko balemiruing ba rona.

One of our biggest challenges is to **build unity** and to celebrate our diversity. We have a **revolutionary contractual obligation** to eradicate poverty in all its tousel and snarled forms, address joblessness and fight ever insidious disproportion. If the people cannot trust their government to do their job for which it exists, to protect them and to promote their welfare **then all else is but lost.**

Die toekoms lyk baie belowend vir die landbou sektor en daarom is dit elkeen van ons se verant woordelikheid om dit verder die toekoms in, in die regte rigting te stuur. My gratitude goes to Honourable Premier of the North West Province Tebogo Job Mokgoro for guidance and support he continues to give at all times, indeed I am humbled by your gesture.

To my political abode I solemnly take the task of serving our people very seriously knowing quite well that you are behind me. Let me assure you that I shall not disappoint for I know the squalors our people live in. I take my hat off to Members of the Legislature particularly the Portfolio Committee on DARD and the communities of the province for your oversight, patience and guidance. We need to strive to make sure that we serve with diligence and our policies, priorities and programmes remain streamlined towards achieving the desired outcomes that favour our

people. To Management and departmental staff, our journey is long but I am confident it shall arrive.

To Laqfamiliaria, my husband Rre Mohono, thank you for always switching the happiness radiance upon my late arrivals and for listening to my political epistles, at times that becomes my just needed therapy. To my adorable children **Pana, Munaka, Koki, Motlalepule, Tshepi** and **Princess** I am truly sanctified to have you in my life and for that I am indebted.

Finally to the one above, as I continue **not** to magnify my problems, please Ohhh Lord remind me that the more **I make you bigger, the smaller my problems** will become.

Ke a leboga - I thank you!

MEC DesboMohono