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North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Media Statement

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MEC Dr Motlhabane condemns violence during protest

MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management Dr Mpho Motlhabane is worried and disturbed by the recent sporadic violent protests happening around the province. He said the department is responsible for safety of the citizens on the roads at their homes, schools and work, which therefore the recent protests bring a challenge to the department.

"Communities must enjoy the right to protest, march and petition government, municipality or any institution. It is not every citizen who is part of these protests, and is unfortunately inconvenienced and becomes victims of circumstance.

Burning of property, Schools, Clinics is crime, barricading of roads is crime, preventing learners to go to school is crime, taxi violence is crime, selling of drugs to children is murder, gansterism is crime. As a responsible and caring government we have a duty and responsibility to deal harshly with all sorts of crime by arresting the criminals and remove them from a peace loving society. We cannot fold our arms and witness or negotiate with criminals who are destroying amongst others our future leaders and infrastructure,"said Dr Molapisi.

MEC said law enforcement agencies will work hard to curb these ills. He said the department will partner with communities, business people and churches to fight these undesirable acts.

"As the government of Bokone Bophirima we believe in Saamtrek, Saamwerk, it is every person's responsibility to fight crime and to live peacefully. Every protest has a leader or leaders and we believe that true leaders cannot encourage or mobilise people to destroy property, that is hooliganism and criminal and we will not tolerate that.

We are happy with the work done by Our Traffic Officers and Police who spend sleepless nights combating crime and bringing peace and stability in our communities and roads," he said, while calling on all citizens to be responsible and refrain from taking extreme measures. "We understand that there are genuine grievances which need to be tackled but let that be done in a responsible manner and engage. "Two wrongs don't make a right," he concluded.



"Together moving Bokone Bophirima forward"



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