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OFFICE OF THE MEC

PRESS RELEASE

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NORTH WEST SPENDS R962 MILLION ON EPWP

The North West Provincial Government has invested R962 million on the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) since the launch f the programme two and a half year ago, North West MEC for Public Works Howard Yawa reported to the North West Provincial Legislature today.

Tabling his 4th Budget Vote Speech on Thursday under the theme "Ascending to a new height", MEC Yawa said the province invested about R701 million in the social and infrastructure and successfully implemented 417 Projects that created 21 000 job and training opportunities. R86, 2 million paid in wages to previously unemployed beneficiaries who participated in the programme.

He said that about 7 791 job opportunities had been created through the programme in the last financial year. About 55 percent of the jobs went to women, 45 percent went to young people and a further 1.2 percent went to people with disabilities.

The MEC said the social sector created 4 044 job opportunities, of which 2 694 were went to women, and 1 255 went to youth while 78 went to people with disabilities.

He added that the infrastructure sector contributed about 3 376 jobs, of which 1 294 went to women while about 15 went to people with disabilities.

MEC Yawa called on the economic sector and the environment and culture sector to prioritise EPWP.

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