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Premier On The Prowl...

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ONE of the road construction companies doing business with government is on a collision course with the Premier of Bokone Bophirima, Supra Mahumapelo. In the firing line, is Tau Pele, the road construction company he accused of “mobilising protest against government”.

This, according to him, is because of the poor quality of work done of the road (D414) between Mahikeng and Tshidilamolomo.

Mahumapelo drove into a hastily convened service delivery protest by the community of Makgori, who blockaded the road on his return from a Setsokotsane implementation programme in the Ratlou Local Municipality about three months ago.

Among the villages through which the road passes, is Makgori.

The Department of Public Works and Roads awarded Tau Pele to rehabilitate the more than 104km stretch of road in question.

“I have been looking for them (Tau Pele) ...I want to see them and ask what is it that they were trying to do on that road, and with whom were they conniving to do what they did,” charged Mahumapelo.

Pulling no punches during his interaction with senior managers of the Department of Public Works and Roads, Mahumapelo accused Tau Pele of “destroying our image” with the quality of work done on the said road.

Ironically, the department in its progress report, lists the road- budgeted at R39 million- as complete with five percent retention remaining.

But Mahumapelo observed: “...after every two metres there is a congestion of potholes on that road.” “Profit maximisation at the expense of stability, is a crime against humanity...”, he warned.

“I am angry with them. We must run after them and we will find them because they are in South Africa,” he said, not ruling out the possibility of reporting Tau Pele’s poor quality of work to the National Government with the view to have them blacklisted.

*Meanwhile, 20km is the maximum each road construction company will be awarded, for any major work to be carried out on any lengthy provincial road.

Mahumapelo said the new approach would ensure that all contractors “share and benefit” which would ensure that all contribute to the renewal of the province.

END

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