

THURSDAY, 28 MARCH 2019

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

The sign † indicates the original language and [] directly thereafter indicates a translation.

The House met at 10:00.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

The SPEAKER: You may be seated. Good morning, hon members, good morning to our guests in the gallery, welcome. Good morning to the Administration. It is a privilege and an honour for me to welcome you here today. However, to our guests, I do need to draw your attention to the rules of the gallery. You are not allowed to participate in the debate in any way. That includes interjection, heckling or clapping. Similarly, please kindly ensure that all your cell phones are placed on silent at this point in time.

I am now going to ask the Secretary to read the first Order of the Day.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 11 – Agriculture – Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B1 - 2019].

The SPEAKER: I now see the hon the Minister for Agriculture, Minister Beverley Schäfer. [Applause.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Hon Speaker, hon Premier, hon members of the Provincial Legislature, heads of Provincial Departments, special guests in the gallery, members of the public, ladies and gentlemen and to our emerging black farmers who are here this morning, a very good morning.

Madam Speaker, last year, as a result of the additional funds allocated for disaster management, this Department received over R1 billion in funding for one year for the first time ever, and this is what we have to show for it. [Holds up an apple.]

Now you may look at this apple and see nothing more than a healthy snack, but for the Department of Agriculture and all of our farmers, our partners, this apple is the fruit of our combined labour.

This apple represents economic growth, and it represents our export potential. Thousands of hours have gone into growing this apple. Each of the operational programmes within the Western Cape Department of Agriculture have played a role in how this apple comes into this room today.

Madam Speaker, when Minister Winde delivered his Department's budget

speech last year, the outlook was grim. The province was in the grip of one of the worst droughts in history and avian influenza almost decimated our poultry industry.

We have, however, weathered the storms and the agricultural sector is showing new shoots for recovery.

The most recent employment numbers released by Statistics South Africa (StatsSA) show that the agriculture and agri-processing sectors have started their recovery, adding about 35 000 jobs between the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2018.

Despite the difficulties, the sector showed resilience and in 2018/2019 exports still increased by 1,4%. This sector is critical to the Western Cape economy and in 10 years between 2007 and 2017, agricultural exports increased from R20,9 billion to more than R63,8 billion in 2017.

The agricultural sector produced 51% of all exported goods from this province and 45% of South Africa's total agricultural exports come from this province.

So, when someone in Malaysia bites into a South African Granny Smith apple, it is most likely grown on the Western Cape soil.

Our allocation of R911,131 million is divided as follows:

Programme 1: Administration will receive R132,754 million.

Programme 2: Sustainable resource management will receive R84,753 million.

Programme 3: Farmer Support and Development will be allocated the bulk of the budget, with R315,655 million.

Our Veterinary Services, Programme 4, will receive R106,381 million.

In Programme 5, Research and Technology, there has been an allocation of R140,710 million.

Programme 6, Agricultural Economic Services will receive R36,007 million.

Programme 7, Structured Education and Training, receives an allocation of R67,336 million; and

Programme 8, Rural Development, will receive R27,535 million.

This year's budget receives R33 million in new funding for the 2019/2020 year and we will be allocating R30 million of this towards developing economic opportunities in agri-processing, export promotion, market access, rural development, land reform and in building our competencies and new technologies to respond to the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

The remaining R3 million will be allocated to the Expanded Public Works Programme in agriculture.

Madam Speaker, the Sustainable Resource Management Directorate, which deals with disaster response, land care and land use, have been pushed to

their limits over the past year, providing support to farmers who have not only been impacted by the drought, but also fallen victim to floods and fires.

The drought continues to be a major concern in certain regions of the province, including the Central Karoo, the Eden District and the West Coast and the disaster management sub-programme continues to provide disaster relief in the form of fodder vouchers every month.

Madam Speaker, earlier this year I met with some farmers from the Central Karoo who showed me the impact the drought has had on their farming operations. Farmers in the region have battled against personal and economic losses, depression and the anxiety of not knowing how long it will be before the rains come.

In many areas, no natural vegetation has survived and planted pastures and fodder banks have long been exhausted. Surplus animals have been culled and farmers are confronted with selling their breeding stock.

The farmers told me how the fodder support we have been able to provide has provided a lifeline, allowing them to continue farming when they would not have been able to continue.

In Kannaland, the situation is certainly dire and farmers are doing all that they can just to keep their businesses afloat. It is a tragedy that disaster relief funding can only be used to assist livestock farmers, as our fruit and

vegetable crop farmers in this region are also really struggling.

Last year the Department of Agriculture received a total of R170 million towards fodder support efforts at adjusted estimate time. This is part of the departmental submission for drought support until September 2019.

Our Farmer Support and Development Programme has received the biggest bite of the apple this year as we focus on providing support, funding and extension services to our black farmers.

Over the MTEF, the Department has allocated over R1 billion towards successful land reform and related activities.

Madam Speaker, over the weekend I attended the handover of title deeds for the Western Cape's oldest and largest outstanding agricultural restitution claim at Ebenhaeser with the Premier. This claim has stretched out over a period of 22 years, which is far too long. The pace of land reform must be improved if we are going to be able to transform this sector.

The Department of Agriculture will continue to support the farmers of Ebenhaeser, Beeswater and Vaalplaas to ensure that they get on their way to becoming commercial agricultural producers. To date, R14 million has already been invested in their bulk water supply system already.

Madam Speaker and hon members, each of you will have received a brown

paper bag today on your tables, which you are welcome to fill with produce from our harvest table outside. [Interjections.] And it is not the brown envelope. This produce has been procured from André Cloete, one of our smallholder farmers in our province. Can I ask if André is here? [Applause.] André has had quite a difficult time, so thank you, André, for doing this and we would like to share the fruit of their labour with all of you.

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: We are proud to say that the fruit of our labour in this sector is evident in the results of a new independent study released last month, which showed that 72% of the land reform projects that receive support from our Department are successful. This is 10 percentage points higher than the figure achieved five years ago, and higher than our targeted 70%.

The reason we and our black farmers are able to achieve this success lies in the comprehensive package of support offered to farmers which ranges from financial and infrastructure support, right down to training in how effectively to run a business and how to produce the best apples and the support of 11 commodity organisations.

Madam Speaker, 15 of those successful black farmers are here today and if they can just stand up so that we can actually acknowledge where they are ... [Applause.] Among them is Leandre Mitchley, a young woman from the

Swartland region who started her farm with just two pigs in 2010. She now supplies the Roelcor and the Cartol abattoirs. Leandre also won the Western Cape and National Female Entrepreneur Awards last year in the smallholder category, setting her on the path to achieve her dream of becoming a commercial farmer. [Applause.]

Madam Speaker, it is vital that we promote agriculture as a career choice amongst young people like Leandre.

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: We need to ensure that the youth are taking advantage of opportunities in the agricultural sector in order to tackle youth unemployment and to introduce new blood to this sector.

Someone who did exactly that is Renshia Manual from Hanover Park. I think she is here. Being unemployed for two years, she was forced to consider her options and she started GrowBox, a compact system for growing your own vegetables, which can be set up anywhere, no matter the space constraints or the soil quality.

GrowBox is also part of an exciting exhibition currently on at the Zeitz MOCAA Museum in Cape Town, in which Renshia's boxes are displayed along with ten commissioned artworks.

Madam Speaker, given the success we have achieved so far, the Department will continue with the commodity approach as a strategy for farmer support and development in the province in 2019/2020.

We are the only province in South Africa that has perfected the commodity approach and the results can be seen in the development of the success of our projects we have supported. Since 2014, over 200 mentors have been appointed by the commodity organisations to support smallholder farmers at no cost to the farmers themselves or to the Department.

This year marks the end of the Jobs Fund's Commercialisation Programme within the deciduous fruit sector. I am happy to report that over 210 hectares of fruit, including this apple, have been planted since 2016 for black producers. I will oversee the signing of the MOUs with the industry partners tomorrow, for the continuation of the existing arrangements.

Madam Speaker, in the past decade, our veterinary services have had to deal with outbreaks of Rift Valley fever, African horse sickness, Malta fever, rabies, distemper and in 2017, a devastating outbreak of avian influenza.

Working with a small, dedicated team, our vets have managed each of the outbreaks together with the increased demand for clinical services to attend to sick animals.

The work that this programme does plays a vital role in the ability to export

to other countries. Unfortunately though, there was an export ban initially emanating from the avian influenza outbreak which affected the ostrich industry which has also been heavily impacted by the drought.

We are proud to say that the Provincial Veterinary Lab was the first veterinary lab in the country to attain SANAS accreditation and as an ISO 17052 compliant laboratory. This has assured international acceptance of our lab results, and they have maintained the accreditation resulting in a more than 300% increase in requests for services.

In addition, they have obtained accreditation for a rapid test for African horse sickness, which means that test results are quicker and cheaper to obtain which will help with the growth of our province's equine industry.

Madam Speaker, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is upon us and the Western Cape Department of Agriculture is leading the pack in terms of its adoption into this sector.

Given the extreme risk presented by climate change, the Research and Technology Directorate will continue their focus on conservation agriculture and our Smart Agriclimate Change plan. In the coming year, conservation agriculture will be expanded into small grains, potatoes and planted pastures. We have already seen excellent uptake of the conservation agriculture which plays an important role in us being able to withstand the worst of the drought in this sector.

The Western Cape has the highest adoption of conservation agriculture in the country, with about 70% of grain farmers practising reduced tillage.

You will find a lot more detail in the Market Intelligence Report here on your tables today, prepared by GreenCape, which you will receive, which shows that farmers in this province have invested in sustainable technologies such as:

- Undercover farming infrastructure and tunnels and shade netting valued at an estimated R1 billion;
- No-till planting machinery which does not degrade soil as much and valued at an estimated R350 million.

Madam Speaker, energy certainty is critical to our economy, and the agricultural sector should be looking at ways to increase its resilience in this regard. This year, I visited a farm which not only helps generate additional electricity capacity but also helps to prevent evaporation from the dam.

I urge all farmers and agricultural producers to look into the viability of alternative energy forms for their businesses to protect themselves from energy shortages which impact their bottom line and their ability to create jobs.

The sixth call for proposals for the Alternative Crops Fund will commence in 2019/2020. These smaller industries which include berries, cherries, figs,

honeybush, guavas, pecan nuts, pomegranates, olives, and Cape flora have been benefitting tremendously on the research front with the support of this Fund. This is excellent growth in this area and has seen increased exports of these crops and the creation of new job opportunities.

Last year, we commissioned research into the state of readiness of the agricultural sector in the province for 4IR, which recommended that agriculture should be re-branded to attract young people to the industry. We have taken this to heart.

In addition to spatial intelligence technologies like Fruitlook and the Flyover Project, the Department has also recently introduced Sentinel-2 technology. Sentinel-2 is an earth observation satellite mission developed by the European Space Agency which creates state-of-the-art satellite imagery. In agriculture it can be used to study the extent of fire scars and damage and crop conditions and pests, to name a few. Its improved spatial resolution and five-day revisit frequency represents a large improvement from older remote sensing technologies currently in use in the sector.

To show you how exciting new technology can be, each of you will have received a small blue device here today, along with a water bottle. Feel free to drink the water and then to attach the plastic device to the top of the bottle to create a small insect trap. [Interjections.]

These insect traps were produced at Elsenburg using a 3D printer.

[Interjections.] Each of them took roughly one hour and 15 minutes to print and consists of 306 microfine layers. We have used polylactic acid or PLA to ensure that these traps are entirely biodegradable. This means that we are printing using an organic material that can be used as compost when it is disposed. [Applause.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: PLA can last hundreds of years at room conditions, yet when exposed to the correct humidity and temperature and micro-organisms in soil, it will biodegrade within a year to compost.

Madam Speaker, our Agricultural Economics Unit will be increasing the focus on creating economic opportunities. The Agri-Processing Unit at Wesgro will receive R2,5 million in 2019/2020. In the past ten years, this partnership with Wesgro has generated projects valued at R2,3 billion and created around 2 600 jobs.

Market Access and exports is one of the key priorities for this Department. As a result, an amount of R3,5 million has been allocated to the 2019/2020 ...

[Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... in addition to the amounts allocated for various market access programmes like SIZA, WIETA and others.

We are also making good progress in achieving Project Khulisa's objectives. Since 2014, employment in agri-processing has recorded a 16,8% increase, despite the drought conditions and gross value added increased by 2,6% in the same period.

Madam Speaker, in 2017, we achieved our goal of doubling wine exports to China, recording 109% growth. In 2018, due to the changing market conditions, we saw a decline in this market. However, the good news is that we saw a 17% increase in packaged wine volume and a 33% increase in the value in this market. Packaged wine sales, as opposed to bulk wine sales, are an important factor for wine makers, as it allows them to market their brand and fetch higher prices for their product.

In 2018, we invested more than R5,3 million in market development initiatives that have thus far benefited 113 companies.

Many of the farmers I have highlighted today have been passionate young people who are driven to reap the fruits of their labour. We need to encourage more young people to enter the agricultural industry.

And that is why I am proud to announce today that the Western Cape and

Cape Town will host the annual African Youth Agripreneur Forum and AgriPitch Competition between 24 and 28 June.

Under the Feed Africa Strategy and the Jobs for Youth in Africa Strategy, the African Development Bank is implementing the Enable Youth Programme to demonstrate that with greater access to agribusiness enterprise, youth can become the driving force of agricultural transformation in Africa.

Mr C M DUGMORE: You are much better than Alan ... [Inaudible.]
[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: And to date, the African Development Bank has committed over US\$350 million to Enable Youth investments on this continent.

With the right skills, technologies and improved access to finance, young African men and women can become the owners of profitable agri-processing business enterprises.

The theme of this year's event is Climate Smart Agriculture: Business and Employment for Africa's Youth and the Western Cape Department of Agriculture will be partnering with the African Development Bank to host the conference which is open to young people from across the continent.

Mr C M DUGMORE: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Our aim is to encourage young farmers like Richard Myburgh, who won the Toyota South Africa New Harvester award in 2017. He is not here today but he is the farm manager on Cortina Farm near Villiersdorp, which is owned by his parents Richard and Yvette. Richard originally started out as a fruit seller before buying the farm.

Proving that the apple does not fall far from the tree, the couple's three children all participate in the family business. The farm is one of the Jobs Fund's projects aimed at creating commercial farmers and through its involvement in the programme, secured AgriBEE funding to renovate their pack house and install coldrooms. The pack house makes it easier for the farm to store their produce while hedging for favourable market prices and they no longer have to rely on a third party to store their fruit.

Because they have increased capacity to store their produce, they have secured new markets and can supply their existing markets throughout the year.

Madam Speaker, Elsenburg College continues to provide training in the agricultural sector. In line with the recommendations of the Fourth Industrial Revolution research, the college will start to align its curricula to produce young farmers with the skills to take us well into the future.

The college has also established a number of programmes and courses aimed at ensuring that young people in farming communities, and the children of agri workers, are exposed to educational opportunities.

Madam Speaker, the Department of Agriculture in the Western Cape was the first to introduce an agricultural worker census. Over 300 000 men and women work in this sector in this province, and we want to understand how they live and the unique challenges they face in order to better respond.

Our Rural Development Programme has used the findings of this census to inform their work and our focus is going to be, in the next financial year, on substance abuse awareness and the prevention programmes, early childhood development, agri-worker and rural community capacity building and rural youth development and mentorship, with the emphasis on female youth.

Already, the unit has hosted group and individual interventions for 25 teenage girls from rural areas, focusing on building self-esteem, confidence and life skills.

We will also be continuing with the second cycle of the Agricultural Worker Household Census and we hope to use these findings to continue to be responsive to the needs of this sector, by informing the rural development programmes rolled out by the departments of the Western Cape Government.

Each year, the Rural Development Unit hosts the prestige Agri-Worker

Awards to find and honour the talent on our province's farms. In 2018, the competition was once again sponsored by Shoprite and Isaac Ntoto from Mossel Bay walked away as the big prize-winner.

Isaac works at Garden of Eden Berries, overseeing the technical aspects of the farm and this young man's passion for farming and drive to succeed is what sets him apart from over 1 300 other entrants in order to win.

We are also pleased to be launching the second edition of tri-lingual Agricultural Dictionary, which the hon members have received.

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: The first version was originally started as a collaborative project between the three officials of the Department, written in English, Xhosa and Afrikaans, in the late 1990s and this version updates the original. The dictionary allows for everyone working in the sector to effectively communicate with each other.

Madam Speaker, fruit may be one of the biggest agricultural products in this province, but it is not just apples, pears and grapes that are the fruit of this Department's work. Working with all of our partners, we have helped to grow people's dreams ... [Interjection.] improve livelihoods and protect the industry from threats like climate change and disease. We are planting our

seeds now for the future - so that we can develop the talent and the technology of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank my predecessor, Minister Alan Winde, for the energy and commitment he has put into this portfolio over the last 10 years. [Interjections.]

I would also like to extend my gratitude to the Department HOD, Joyene Isaacs and her committed team at Elsenburg and all the officials and extension officers stationed around the province who are really doing exceptional work to ensure that we continue to reap the seeds we sow

I would also like to thank my staff in the Ministry and I will talk a little bit more about that in my next speech, but I would like to acknowledge again the hard work of the Standing Committee Chair, hon Simmers, and his committee, who strengthen the sector through accountability and oversight.

And finally, I would like in particular to thank Mr Arie van Rabenswaaij who printed all the flytraps for you today. For those you have not seen them, they are busy printing them outside in the foyer. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Schäfer. I now see the hon member Simmers.

Mr T A SIMMERS: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Thank you very much, hon Minister. Before I start my formal speech, in Afrikaans we have a saying that: †Agter elke suksesvolle man staan ‘n goeie vrou. Vandag is die skoen aan die ander voet. [Gelag.] [Behind every successful man stands a good wife. Today the shoe is on the other foot. [Laughter.]]

Madam Speaker, on 5 March hon Minister Meyer tabled a budget that focused on the following. He said: a budget for jobs, a budget for service delivery, a budget for safety, a budget for youth, a budget for infrastructure, a budget for climate change and, lastly, a budget for good governance.

In the agricultural sector, Madam Speaker, the hope always remains that all State instruments must facilitate a journey of change and have a budget behind it that must encompass the future vision the State envisions for all sectors of society to enable this change.

The MTEF allocation for Vote 11 is a clear sign that this DA-led Government is focused on ensuring positive economic and job opportunity growth and thus creating a more resilient agricultural sector.

To substantiate this and to feed it back into hon Minister Meyer’s tabling of the budget, I will now focus on key elements of Vote 11 that will underline the emphasis on job creation, land reform and infrastructure development for the sector, utilising one specific Catalytic Project that is due to happen during the next term of Parliament.

†Agb Voorsitter, watersekerheid en volhoubare voorsiening van hierdie lewens- en sektornoodsaaklike bron is kardinaal vir die landbousektor en die werksgeleenthede wat die sektor skep, tans by hou en beoog om nog te skep elke seisoen.

Dit is daarom welkom om te verneem dat die Brandvleikanaal Walverhogingsprojek weer binne die visier van hierdie Regering is, word om die [Onhoorbaar.] voltooiing van die konstruksiefase daarvan heel moontlik gedurende 2020 sal geskied.

Nou agb Huisvoorsitter, deur hierdie wal met 30 sentimeter te verhoog sal daar 33 miljoen kubieke meter meer water beskikbaar gestel word vir besproeiing. Maar wat beteken dit? Die impak van hierdie addisionele besproeiingskapasiteit, agb Voorsitter, gaan teweegbring dat daar 'n addisionele 4 400 hektaar beskikbare grond sal wees vir landbouverbouing. Maar wat beteken die 4 400 hektaar, agb Voorsitter?

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Hon Chairman, water security and sustainable supply of this life and sector essential source is cardinal to the agricultural sector and the job opportunities the sector is creating, currently maintain and intend to create every season.

It is therefore welcome to hear that the Brandvlei Channel Wall Raising

Project is again in the sights of this Government, to [Inaudible.] of the construction phase that will most probably happen during 2020.

Now hon House Chairman, by raising this wall by 30 centimetres, 33 million cubic metres more water will be made available for irrigation. But what does that mean? The impact of this additional irrigation capacity, Mr Chairman, will make available an additional 4 400 hectares of land for agricultural cultivation. But what do the 4 400 hectares mean, hon Chairman?]

Madam Speaker, an additional 4 400 hectares for agricultural cultivation will, firstly, attract more than R2 billion in capital investment, resulting in the creation of 8 000 primary job opportunities and 6 500 secondary job opportunities, which we all here believe will change the quality of lives for the surrounding communities who will ultimately be the beneficiaries of this life-changing project.

And as this Department already has an excellent land reform success record – †en ja, [and yes,] hon member Dugmore, check †maar dit asseblief ... [it please] [Interjections.] – the Brandvlei Project will unlock an additional R856 million, which equates to 50% of this Department's land reform target. You can fact check that as well, please.

Mr C M DUGMORE: We will.

†Mnr T A SIMMERS: Ja-nee, doen dit maar met liefde.

[Mr T SIMMERS: Yes, do it by all means.] †But, Madam Speaker ...
[Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Ask Alan Winde to do his stat checks ... [Inaudible.]
[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, please. [Interjections.]

Mr T A SIMMERS: But, Madam Speaker, although I have highlighted but one Catalytic Project and its envisaged impact on job creation, land reform, which the ANC has dismally failed at, and infrastructure development for the sector, I am also aware – as our hon Minister has highlighted – that the Fourth Industrial Revolution and climate change is letting Government and sector stakeholders plan and think ahead to ensure the creation of economic opportunities for the agricultural sector.

†Agb Voorsitter, hierdie DA-Regering, anders as die ANC, sit die daad by die woord om te verseker dat, onder andere, daar oor hierdie MTEF-periode 132.75 miljoen begroot word om te verseker dat the Provinsiale Regering sal bydra tot suksesvolle landelike ontwikkeling en hervorming, die Vierde Industriële Revolusie en klimaatsverandering, om die ontsluiting van ekonomiese geleenthede te verwesenlik vir hierdie sektor in ons provinsie.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Hon Chairman, this DA Government, as opposed to the ANC, walks the talk to ensure that, amongst others, over this MTEF period R132.75 million will be budgeted to ensure that the Provincial Government will contribute to successful land development and reform, the Fourth Industrial Revolution and climate change, to realise the unlocking of economic opportunities for this sector in our province.]

Madam Speaker, over the last decade this DA-led Government, through all of its departments, has competently facilitated a journey of change to bring our residents and sector stakeholders together for the better. And I believe that after 8 May and with a credible budget to fund its strategic objectives further, our incoming Premier, Alan Winde, will lead a DA-led Provincial Government ... [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

Mr T A SIMMERS: ... that will ensure all our residents and the agriculture sector go from better to excellent... [Interjections.] [Applause.] in economic and job opportunity growth.

Ms S W DAVIDS: ... people staying out there.

Mr T A SIMMERS: Because, as the hon Premier has stated ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, please. Order!

Mr T A SIMMERS: As the hon Premier has stated, this Government has chosen to travel the road less travelled... [Interjections.] and 10 years of success have shown us to do the right thing at the right time, will have an ultimate life-changing impact on the residents of our province and not so much, more even the agricultural sector.

I want to thank the hon Premier and the former Minister of Agriculture and our incumbent Minister for taking the road less travelled – †want die ANC sal dit nooit doen nie. Dankie. [Applous.] [Because the ANC will never do it. Thank you. [Applause.]]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Can we get some order, please. I now see the hon member Tyatyam. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me welcome the speech of the hon Minister. I must say that it is a 360 U-turn from what we have been used to, but in particular in the focus on young people and women in particular. So we must appreciate that. But I must also say ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, please.

Mr S G TYATYAM: ... I will not elaborate on some of the issues because the MEC touched on them, in relation to our strength in the export market, our contribution to the GDP and, of course, our robustness and inventiveness as the sector that enables it to withstand the natural challenges that we

sometimes get and all the budget constraints that are put upon the industry.

Hon Chair, let us also appreciate the role that the sector is playing, not only in agriculture but also in manufacturing, because plus-70% of the manufacturing industry benefits from the agricultural production.

Hon Chair, let me also take this opportunity to welcome the handing over Ebonaaser restitution claim by President Ramaphosa.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

Mr S G TYATYAM: It was a good gesture that has long been awaited. We know that some ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Very long.

Mr S G TYATYAM: We know that some of the farmers were unwilling.

An HON MEMBER: They were ... [Inaudible.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: They even went to court to protect their farms. [Interjections.] And we know that at some stage the DA protected and supported them.

An HON MEMBER: Yes. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: So we welcome the hand-over. [Interjections.] Hon Chair, maybe one part that one wants to correct from the hon MEC was that our budget last year did not just arrive to plus R1 billion, over R1 billion; it was due to natural disasters that happened and hence adjustments had to be made in the budget in order to make sure that from the national budget from the National Government they are able to assist the Province to withstand those disasters. So our budget has not just been over R1 billion; we must acknowledge that.

And this current budget has also increased. We have our increase, inflationary increase, which is much higher than what we had last year.

Madam Speaker, I think it is important to say that, as an industry and as a legislature, we must hold our industry in high esteem and we must support them continuously. We must not play politics in the industry because when we play politics, not only the province will be affected but the country and the region as a whole will be affected. But I am going to focus, Madam Speaker, on three issues in terms of this budget: one, on the core functions of the Department; two, on Programme 8 of the Department and the last one, on the allocation to district municipalities.

We must say that the Department has a history of best performance, particularly in the periods of 2011, 2012, 2013 under the leadership of MEC Gerhard van Rensburg. The management of the Department has more than 100 years' combined experience that has helped it to navigate and adjust to

challenging times.

The Fifth Session of Parliament was indeed a major setback for the Parliament. Suddenly, the Department could not fulfil its core functions, namely governance, leading to it, in 2016 and 2017, qualified findings under the AGSA, in particular under internal control deficiencies, irregular expenditure and further, leadership not exercising its oversight role on financial matters.

Go again to 2017 and 2018, the Legislature will refuse again to perform its oversight function, not even after Adv Le Roux told the committee that: there are no cockroaches here, perform your duties unreservedly. But the DA had to use its majority vote to run away from accounting. [Interjections.]

The Premier candidate and former MEC Alan Winde was so resolute not to account at all, the current Minister was introduced and instructed by the DA to caution and protect their candidate, not to face the oversight of the weaknesses in leadership during his Department ... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Is that not corruption?

Mr S G TYATYAM: Exactly. [Interjections.] The current MEC had to play along, as the former pleaded with her during their visit in Italy where she ran away from the committee study tour to probably get the briefing of the new post.

So, till today, the committee has not done a proper, proper oversight that deals with the committee matters and also that deals with finances because the Department under the MEC brought about more than 100 questions that must not be asked. And what is the work of the committees ... [Interjections.] if you cannot ask questions that relate to the findings of the AGSA.

Mr C M DUGMORE: And did Zille support ... [Interjection.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: The HOD ... [Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Hon Zille to you.

The SPEAKER: Ja. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: HOD, you are accounting officers and never allow anyone to pressure you to drop the ball.

Mr C M DUGMORE: [Inaudible.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: Always remember, the Legislature is there to support the good work that you have always done before the Fifth Session. We know the work, you know your work, you know that you can deliver but never allow anyone to bulldoze you and do things that are unbecoming. [Interjections.]

Point 2, hon Chair, which I am hoping to hear from the Minister ...

[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, please.

Ms P MASEKO: [Inaudible.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: Under Programme 8, Rural Development, under this programme Rural Development ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, sorry hon Tyatyam, kindly take your seat, please. There is too much noise and you are drowning out the speaker on the floor. I am addressing both sides of the House. I do need to protect the speaker. You may proceed, hon Tyatyam.

Mr C M DUGMORE: [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, we are all hon members. Thank you. You may proceed, hon Tyatyam. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: The programme Rural Development Coordination, Social Facilitation, Farmworker Development are part of this programme which, in my view, is so critical because it also deals with transforming the agricultural landscape in our communities and the economics there. And therefore it empowers the farmworkers in particular, this programme.

But I wonder who the manager of this programme is. Maybe at some stage we will be told. [Interjections.] Maybe the MEC will tell us because the last two, three, financial years, we have seen an exodus of skilled staff leaving the Department. Currently we have about 20, 29 personnel. We used to have more than 30 that were there.

Information at hand speaks to at least 13 staff having left the Department, the last one leaving in December last year. Some of the staff that resigned, giving a minute's notice or no notice at all and not even getting an exit interview in the process. Some of them – we can mention Emma, Presencia, Gill Jacobs, Karin Kleinbooi, Charmaine Sobeyi, even the PA of Angelique Smith, Nolundi, Henry, Wilton September, Erica Manodamons, Eben Sal Danasile, Cindy Beerwinkel, Felicia Cloete, Simphiwe Kute ... [Interjections.] It helps, it helps.

The SPEAKER: Hon Tyatyam, I am very sorry but your time has expired. You may finish your question.

Mr S G TYATYAM: No ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Sorry, you can finish your last sentence. Your time has expired. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: I must say that the information that we have, the head of the Department does not know what to do and does not know how to deal

with managers that manage people. That is the reason that even exit interviews were not carried out. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Tyatyam.

In the absence of the ACDP and the EFF ...

An HON MEMBER: The Chief Whip ... [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: The Chief Whip is in the House. [Interjection.] I now see the hon the Minister, Minister Schäfer.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think, thank you to hon member Simmers for his comments that he has made but really, hon member Tyatyam, we go back for the last five years and I do not think that was your best attempt at trying to convince me that you were really talking about what you know in agriculture, I have to say.

The PREMIER: Exactly.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: First of all, I would like to raise the fact that the land reform independent study was externally done. It had 39 criteria that were used to determine its success. These criteria cover all three elements of

sustainability, which include economic, social and environment. 243 projects were supported between 2014 and 2018 and of those 243 projects, 72% were found to be successful. And what I can say is that Africa Check did not dispute any findings and they did ask us for the details. They did not dispute the findings of the research study.

In terms of the allegations that you are making around the Department possibly being influenced, I find that that is also not fair because it does not matter who stands as Minister, this Department has maintained their integrity, they have had clean audits from 2010/2011, 2012/2013, 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and so it goes on. So if there is any ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Tyatyam – hon member Schäfer, Minister Schäfer kindly take your seat, please. Hon Tyatyam, you have been afforded 10 minutes to speak. You had your 10 minutes. If you wish to pose a question to the hon Minister you can ask her through the Chair if she wishes to take a question. You are allowed to interject but it cannot become ongoing interruption. Thank you. [Interjections.] So do you wish to pose a question? So I will ask the hon Minister. You kindly take your seat, please. Minister, will you take a question from the hon Tyatyam?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: No.

The SPEAKER: The Minister will not take a question. [Interjections.] Hon

Tyatyam, hon Tyatyam, the Minister will not take a question. Please compose yourself. Thank you. You may proceed, Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: I have said to you, hon member Tyatyam, most disappointing today.

I think very important is, and I am not going to go into the court case again, we have discussed this at length ... [Interjections.] human capital development with the focus on youth and women, especially from our designated groups, will remain a high focus and has always been. This Department does not need an instruction from me or anybody else. They know what they have to do.

120 youths, young agricultural graduates, will continue to be supported and mentored by more than 60 farmers and the industry partners from black and white farmers included. It is not a race issue.

About 240 beneficiaries will benefit from our internships, bursary and young professional programmes. Mr Michael Appel is in the audience, he is one such person who has progressed and was supported by this Department. He progressed from our scholarship programme in Grade 11 to Masters in Civil Engineering. [Interjections.] He is now employed in the Department as a candidate engineer. [Applause.] There are many such success stories.

So please, hon member, that is not true. There is no conspiracy theory about people resigning. [Interjections.] This is a department that works for the people on the ground, they do extensive work there. If it was not for them, I know that even Cyril Ramaphosa, the President himself, has acknowledged the work that we do in this province. I thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Schäfer. That, hon members, concludes the debate on this Vote. The House will be suspended for the administrative bay exit and we shall resume in three minutes. Thank you.

[Business of the House was suspended at 10:51 and resumed at 10:57]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be seated.

The Secretary will read the second Order of the Day.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 12 – Economic Development and Tourism – Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B1 - 2019].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see Minister Schäfer. [Applause.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Hon members of the Provincial Cabinet, hon members of the Provincial Legislature, heads of department, the Department of Economic Development, Wesgro, members of the public,

especially guests and business owners, good morning.

Ten years ago, the Western Cape Government identified economic growth and job creation as the number one priority in this Government. Economic growth and job creation are not just numbers and statistics - these two things have the biggest impact on how residents of this province live.

A job is not just a job. It is a window to opportunity. A person with a job has dignity, is able to put food on the table and put their child through school, thereby opening up opportunities for the next generation.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism, which is tasked with creating the enabling environment in which economic growth and job creation can happen, has a mammoth task.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would be doing a disservice to the citizens and businesses of this province if I did not open with a series of own goals scored by our national counterparts - not of this province's making, but likely to result in job losses here nonetheless.

This Department has worked tirelessly and successfully in facilitating private sector job creation, but how do we convince a company like Hisense that has plants to nearly double their production of TVs, fridges and white goods, to give effect to that expansion in the Western Cape when the National Energy Utility is unable to keep the lights on?

The PREMIER: Ja!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: How do we convince a company like Foschini, that has demonstrated appetite to bring back thousands of clothing and textile jobs, when there is no guarantee that their electric sewing machines will work?

The PREMIER: Ja!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: We already import too many goods into this province and manufacturing holds the key to our ability to create new jobs.

The PREMIER: Absolutely.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: How do we convince global call centre companies to continue to create thousands of jobs, as they did last year, when they will not be able to even to turn their computers on? [Interjections.]

It is only through the trust and relationships developed by this Government and this Department in particular, that these firms are taking a wait-and-see approach instead of writing off this region completely.

The PREMIER: That is why.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: The energy security risk is not only to job creation, but to sustain current employment and it cannot be overstated.

Added to this, the constraint to productivity that is our poorly functioning rail system. A Cape Chamber of Commerce study found that more than 86% of businesses believe that Metrorail threatened the sustainability of their business, with surveyed firms reporting a decline in profits.

Die PREMIER: Skandalig!

The PREMIER: Disgraceful!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: It is becoming more challenging to persuade [Interjections.] foreign and local investors to commit to expanding. Investment is critical to improving productivity, growing the GDP and creating jobs. A decline in investment, which is the likely outcome of these two national own-goals, will lead to fewer jobs and exacerbate the feelings of hopelessness.

It is truly remarkable then, in light of this, that this province created more than 120 000 jobs ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear.

Mnr D JOSEPH: Hoor-hoor!

Mr D JOSEPH: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... it did over the last 15 months. [Applause.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, Economic Development and Tourism has been allocated R1,607 billion over the medium-term, of which R523,367 million will be spent in 2019/2020.

The programme as follows:

- 1 Administration received R67,555 million;
- 2 Integrated Economic Development Services R68,365 million;
- 3 Trade and Sector Development R63,571 million;
- 4 Business Regulation and Governance R9,9 million;
- 5 Economic Planning R189,271 million;
- 6 Tourism, Arts and Entertainment R60,154 million;
- 7 Skills Development and Innovation R64,551 million.

The Western Cape's working age population grew 25% faster than the rest of South Africa, primarily as a result of migration from other provinces. Despite a growing population this province has recorded the lowest broad unemployment rate in the country at 23,1%.

But, this still means that 600,000 people still do not have a job in this

province.

Our spending focus over the next year and in the medium-term will continue to drive the creation of an environment for growth and jobs through the reduction of red tape, by boosting our attractiveness as an investment destination and through continued infrastructure-led investment.

Mr Deputy Speaker, South Africa and the Western Cape have a growing youth population. What should be viewed as an opportunity has the potential to easily become a crisis if we do not find solutions to youth unemployment now.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: By the fourth quarter of 2018 there were 3,9 million unemployed young people in the country, with 382,000 of these living in the Western Cape. If we include these young people not currently searching for work, these numbers rise to 6,2 million and 473,000 respectively.

Since 2010 the Western Cape has reduced youth unemployment by 2,2% and created 122,524 jobs for young people, but our work is not yet done.

[Applause.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Nobody wins when the youth are unemployed. Young people with no access to economic opportunities start to depend on their aging parents, family members or become reliant on the state for grants and assistance. On the other side of the coin the potential and skills of millions of young, working-aged people, are lost to society.

Mr Deputy Speaker, this month I launched a new initiative called Youth on the Move during a two day roadshow in George. This project, which will be rolled out in partnership with municipalities, aims to connect young people and employers in these areas.

During the event I met with employers and young people to talk about what is standing in the way of young people finding employment. For the employers it was largely a lack of skills. For young people it was about resources: it is expensive to print CVs, to, for example, travel to interviews or to get to work.

I have committed to creating 250,000 new opportunities for young people over the next five years and to do this we need to be finding ways to ensure that these barriers are erased and the uptake of young people into jobs is improved.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the matric economics class - who was here a few minutes ago - from St Andrews High School - they are

probably looking at the 3D printing, which they find extremely exciting. Over the public holiday I attended an event near the school and found these pupils at school, working towards their future success.

The future economy will be driven by innovation and technology, and please let me state that I have to thank Agriculture for printing out of wood, in 3D printing, my bracelet for today. So I have just actually oversaw that.

The future economy will be driven by innovation and technology. It will need to embrace green technologies and renewable energy, and it is going to require the development of a whole new set of skills and the re-skilling of a large number of people.

DEDAT has allocated R196,555 million towards the coordination, facilitation and implementation of skills development initiatives over the next three years with special focus on youth skills.

These youth skills programmes include artisan development, skills for the digital economy, financial and business sector skills, improving the quality of Maths, Science and engineering qualifications, and developing entrepreneurial skills.

Over the last five years the skills unit placed 5,275 youth with host companies in the Work and Skills Programme, and supported a further 2,895 training opportunities to youth to further skills and improve their

employability.

In the coming financial year the Department will invest R11,2 million on the Work and Skills Programme.

The Artisan Development Programme is designed to increase the number of people with technical and vocational skills in the Western Cape. For this purpose an allocation of R12,2 million will be made available in 2019/20 to support over 300 apprentices at host companies to becoming qualified artisans.

The aim of the Entrepreneurship Game-changer has been to achieve sufficient qualified technical and vocationally skilled people to meet the needs of our priority growth areas of tourism, oil and gas, agri-processing, ICT and renewable energy. By December 2018 we had exceeded the target of 10,228 young people entering workplace-based learning programmes with 10,471 learners having started.

These apprenticeships offer windows of opportunity to young people, allowing them to learn new skills that will either get them to that all-important first job, or allow them to start their own businesses one day, which is exactly what Siyabonga Makhatini plans to do one day.

Siyabonga is a construction engineering student specialising in plumbing - in particular solar plumbing installations. He received a bursary for his studies

and is currently doing his apprenticeship at Element 4 in Somerset West. He says:

“Within the next five years my goal is to start my own plumbing company that specialises in all kinds of plumbing”.

But in order for apprentices to develop the sufficient level of skill they require mentors. Mentorship in this area is regulated and only two apprentices can be assigned to a qualified artisan at one time.

In the 2019/20 year we will allocate R1 million to train 100 workers as mentors in order to support apprentices on the pathway to becoming qualified artisans.

Another R1 million will help to assist workers use the recognition of prior learning toolkits developed by the Department to be assessed and speed up their access to be trade tested.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to tell you the remarkable story of Deon Bennie. Deon dreamed of being able to do his trade test and reached out to several training institutions over the years in a bid to get his official qualification. However, as he only has a Grade 6 and suffers from dyslexia, nobody wanted to help him.

Deon then heard about Africa Skills Village in George and decided to try one last time. The recognition of prior learning toolkit could be applied to his

unique needs and I am pleased to say that Deon successfully completed his trade test in welding about two weeks ago [Applause.] and is now looking for job opportunities in the petroleum industry.

†Mnr D JOSEPH: Mooi.

[Mr D JOSEPH: Good.]

The PREMIER: Fabulous.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Mr Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape has set a new goal of becoming a global tech hub.

The PREMIER: Fabulous.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: We are already home to the most productive tech sector in Africa. In order to control and continue growing this sector and attracting investors, we will be working with partners including the City of Cape Town, BPESA, EOH, Imperial Technical Academy and Citi, who have all contributed towards work readiness and training initiatives in the ICT and business processing sectors.

At the I-CAN centre in Elsies River citizens have taken advantage of over 6,500 digital courses, ranging from basic computer literacy to more advanced

ones.

Last year DEDAT secured partnerships with Google and IBM for the digital skills training content and the first set of the new I-CAN delivery sites are being activated in the following communities: Piketberg, Velddrif, Goedverwacht, Porterville, Saldanha Bay and Bredasdorp.

We are using innovation to build our economy and to help grow small business. Starting a business can be really scary and it requires a huge leap of faith. To understand this I took my own leap of faith a few weeks ago out of an aeroplane at 9,000 feet. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, this was part of the launch of Jump, an innovative new mobile app that will help small businesses succeed by allowing them to connect with other businesses, access assistance and mentorship, and other opportunities. Before the app even went live yesterday we had 2,600 businesses sign up and I encourage all small businesses and small business-support organisations to sign up and be part of it.

In addition to being innovative, we also need to be resilient.

In the Western Cape we have allocated R28,4 million to the Green Economy and energy in the current year.

In order to respond to the current and future electricity challenges, as well as

to grow economic opportunities around providing renewable sources of energy, the Department has been driving the SmartGrids rooftop photovoltaics project since 2015.

So far we have installed approximately 112 megawatts with a target of 135 megawatts by 2020.

In the 2019/20 year this project is allocated R1,9 million. I urge all businesses and residents to consider solar PV as an alternative energy source, with a battery back-up.

While our focus is currently on energy, water supply and resilience is of equal importance. The drought has shown us the value of water and in the 2019/20 we will be spending R6 million on economic water resilience projects.

Over the past year GreenCape, which is funded by the Department, has worked with businesses to reduce their water consumption. As a result, a major cement manufacturer now uses 50% less water per ton of product produced. Working with GreenCape a soft drink manufacturer now uses 27% less water.

This is the new normal.

The Western Cape has a fast-growing green economy and we intend to drive

this growth through the Atlantis Special Economic Zone, which will develop the area into a green manufacturing hub.

In 2019/20 this project is allocated R26,537 million. It has already secured four investors valued at R680 million, creating 300 new jobs.

In the 2019/20 year the Special Economic Development Infrastructure Company will be established. SEDIC will be our holding company that will set up the establishment of the Atlantis Special Economic Zone. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Standing Committee and the House for their amazing support to ensure that the Bill has got this far thus far - this far so far. The establishment - and certainly hope to be passed today. [Interjections.] The establishment of SEDIC will enable us to initiate the Atlantis Special Economic Zone entity which will have representation from the Atlantis community and labour on its board.

Programmes that seek to develop enterprises and skills within the local community and broader Green-Tech ecosystem will also continue to roll out in the new year, with the objective of providing 100 young people with skills development opportunities and supporting local enterprises towards becoming procurement ready.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we recognise that we need to be creating windows of opportunity across the province and in order that people are able to access opportunities where they live.

I am pleased to announce a R30 million stimulus aimed at increasing support to SMMEs and developing the economies in mainly rural areas such as Bredasdorp, Clanwilliam, Hermanus, Riebeek West, Swellendam and Caledon.

In addition Wesgro will be rolling out a “district unit” with the objective of extending Wesgro’s services into the regions.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Only now.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: This will help to market business in the district ...[Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: Only now.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... increase awareness of investment opportunities and to assist companies to link into the export advancement programme.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Too little, too late.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Our red tape reduction and ease of doing business interventions are showing remarkable results. Earlier this year we reached a targeted

R1 billion in economic savings from interventions that cut red tape and make it easier to do business.

One of the biggest wins has been the reduction in the time it takes to consider and approve building plans in municipalities like the City of Cape Town, Drakenstein and Theewaterskloof. For the 2019/20 financial year another 11 municipalities have been identified for improvement of local-business-facing services through building control portals and other digitised improvements in the Municipal Support to Business programme. This will reduce time, costs and complexity while promoting certainty of processes for local businesses.

Our SMME booster programme has been allocated R21 million to support township business and rural SMMEs in order to drive development and to create jobs.

Close to 100 SMMEs will be directly supported, resulting in improved business efficiency, increased turnover and profitability, asset value and new market development.

This programme will focus on providing infrastructure support like trading and storage space to micro enterprises, and identifying women and youth owned businesses with high growth potential.

Small businesses are most impacted by resource shortages like water shortages and load shedding, and as such SMMEs in distress will be offered

support in order to protect them and the jobs that they have created.

We will also continue the rollout of our Pick n Pay spaza shop programme, which identifies spaza shops in communities for development into supermarkets. So far we have rolled out three stores in the province with the aim of growing a new generation of modern, retail entrepreneurs.

The Department also directly supports small businesses through its Enterprise Development Unit interventions such as the Agri-Processing Supplier Development Programme. This programme has helped small businesses across the province in the vital areas of turnover, growth, profitability, market access opportunities and most importantly creating new jobs. At the end of 2017, 22 small, medium and micro enterprises were selected to be part of the programme and received support in various forms.

Mr Deputy Speaker, when Project Khulisa was launched as our sector-specific growth strategy in 2014, it set out a series of specific targets which hold everyone involved to account. I am pleased to say that as we near the end of this term we have achieved a number of these targets, resulting in a positive and quantifiable impact on our economy.

Total employment in the province has grown by 360,000 jobs in the allocated period, against a target of 260,000.

In agri-processing we hosted our first successful Halal Week last year with

plans to host the next one later this year. We have also recorded a 12% increase in the dollar value of exports of Halal goods. Exports in this sector are now valued at a total of R14,5 billion annually.

African Equations, a Cape Town based, black woman-owned business producing high quality sparkling juices, has been involved in a number of our Halal promotional outward missions and trade shows, where they have been able to secure new markets and new buyers.

Their Zari juices are a popular, non-alcoholic alternative to champagne and sparkling wine. They have now been served at weddings, banquets and celebrations around the world. The brand is stocked in premium hotels including at Sun City, the One & Only, the Alba, Maresol, Maslow, Michelangelo and passengers on British Airways flights on New Year's Day this year, sipped on our Zari juices.

At the 2018 Halal Week expo, a significant wholesaler from Singapore placed an order within 20 minutes of the trade show opening for activations to gauge interest in the Singapore market.

In tourism we have seen job numbers grow by an average of 5% or 9,512 jobs annually over the duration of our Khulisa interventions. The GVA of this sector also increased by 7,5% between 2016 and 2017.

The Air Access Project, which is a joint venture between various spheres of

government and the private sector, has shown remarkable results since its inception.

The success of the project is reflected on the international terminal passenger growth: 16% growth recorded in 2016, 20% growth in 2017 and 9% growth for 2018 in two-way passengers. This has contributed an estimated R6 billion in tourism spend to the Western Cape economy. International air cargo has also seen a phenomenal 52% growth during 2017 due to the added belly-freight capacity.

Khulisa also focused on growing cycle and business tourism to the province. We have now launched four cycle routes across the province and our work to increase business and conferencing is paying off - with the Convention Bureau securing 15 bid conferences which will add R583 million to the economy and bring nearly 22,000 delegates to our province.

In the oil and gas sectors we have seen double digit increases in GVA of 10,6% with the sector contributing R1,382 billion in 2017. It has also created 5,690 direct jobs.

In other sector-specific initiatives our work to grow the film industry continues.

Wesgro holds the film and media promotions mandate from DEDAT and the City of Cape Town. To date the unit has helped attract over R3,8 billion in

production value spend and nearly 4,500 full-time equivalent jobs.

In the 2017/2018 financial year, the unit facilitated R1,9 billion in spend and approximately 2,000 full-time equivalent jobs.

The unit is currently focused on encouraging long form TV series such as the HBO Cinemax *Warrior*, which is currently in season two and Sir Ridley Scott's TV series, *Raised by Wolves*, which were both shot here.

Mr Deputy Speaker, over the past year Cape Town and the Western Cape have collected a number of accolades in the tourism sector.

All of these mean very little if our visitors do not feel safe. DEDAT has a dedicated tourism safety and support unit which provides proactive and reactive responses to tourists in distress to ensure that we create a caring environment should the worst happen.

In the 2019/2020 financial year the Department will be launching a comprehensive audit of all existing tourism safety related signage, starting with a pilot programme on a single region in the province. In addition a structured tourism road signage training programme will be developed and training provided to tourism and municipal officials, starting with a pilot in one region this year.

We are also working to develop a database of tourist-related crime and

incidents across the Western Cape to track trends and enable DEDAT to focus their efforts based on factual data.

Our existing teams of tourism safety officers will be further equipped with branded equipment and anti-theft backpack covers will be provided for tourists.

Our Journey to Service Excellence programme will also continue in the next financial year.

Each year the programme which includes a workshop component, a phone-in radio competition to nominate businesses giving excellent service and a leadership workshop are offered to businesses in one area. In 2019/2020 financial year the programme will be offered in the Cape Winelands towns of Paarl and Wellington.

Mr Deputy Speaker, this Department has been tasked with creating an enabling environment for growth and jobs, and it is clear that the work they are doing are paying dividends despite the many headwinds we have had to face. As a result the Western Cape has the least discouraged job seekers, who are the most hopeful of finding work.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND

TOURISM: We are investing in the youth and changing lives through access to opportunities.

Finally, Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to thank once again my predecessor, Minister Alan Winde, for the last 10 years of his hard work in this portfolio. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: I would like to extend my thanks to HOD Solly Fourie ...[Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... and his team over there, who are working tirelessly to ensure that we are able to deliver on this massive mandate and with not such a big budget, Solly. I would also like to thank all of the organisations and the private sector companies who share our vision and have partnered with us to help develop and deliver on that vision.

My thanks must also go to hon member Simmers and the committee for their valuable work and oversight over the Department.

And to the businesses out there, thank you for your contribution to the growth in our economy. And to my staff and office, to Vuvu and her team at the Ministry of Economic Opportunities, I am only here because we are. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon member Simmers.

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

†Mnr T A SIMMERS: Dankie, mnr die Adjunkspeaker. Eerstens ek wil net die Minister bedank vir haar regtigwaar 'n 360 grade-oorsig oor die suksesse van hierdie Departement, want ons word gemeet nie aan wat ons sê nie, maar aan wat ons doen.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Mr T A SIMMERS: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Firstly I just want to thank the Minister for her real 360 degrees overview on the successes of this Department, because we are measured not against what we say, but what we do.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, on 5 March Minister Meyer informed this House that the budget he tabled before it was to ensure maximum citizen impact, †en gegewe wat die Minister so pas vir ons gesê het, watter groter impak was daar nie oor

die afgelope 10 jaar gemaak nie? [and given what the Minister has just told us, what greater impact has not been made over the past 10 years?]

Mr Deputy Speaker, this maximum citizen impact can only be realised if an enabling environment for job creation and skills development is provided for, which is ultimately the duty of all spheres of government.

A Provincial Government that seeks to ensure an enabling environment in the context of the current economic climate - ŉen alle probleme daar aan gekoppel – [and all problems related thereto] - will focus on energy security, skills development, infrastructure development and lastly trade and investment, and this is exactly what this DA led Government has done, and I will now expand on how this Government, through the tabled 2019 MTEF budget, is still going to continue doing it.

Energy security, Mr Deputy Speaker. Over the last few weeks we have really experienced, and I think we can all agree with a lot of frustration, load shedding due to the rapid failure of Eskom. [Interjections.] To ensure that we continue to grow our provincial economy, sustainable energy security is indeed needed now more than ever.

With this National Government and its SOE failing us yet again, this DA led Provincial Government will continue the roll-out of priority initiatives linked to energy security by diversifying the energy mix that is required to ensure our economy is sustained.

These initiatives include the Smart Grid Project which focuses on the development and implementation of tariffs and rules for rooftop photovoltaic units to attract investment through the Green Cape, that will enable the creation of jobs, primarily in the manufacturing sector, through engagements on local content in renewable energy independent power producer procurement programme.

†Mnr die Adjunkspeaker, deur te verseker dat die ligte aan bly kan ons dan begin praat van vaardigheidsontwikkeling, dan word dit moontlik gemaak. Vaardigheidsontwikkeling: hierdie Departement het R196,555 miljoen oor die 2019 MTEF begroot wat primêr fokus op die koördinerende, fasiliterende en implimenterende van vaardigheidsinisiatiewe in ons provinsie.

Van hierdie inisiatiewe sluit in die gefokusde vakleerlingskap-programme, ambagsman-ontwikkeling, wat broodnodig is veral in ons ekonomiese ontwikkelingsones, vaardighede vir die digitale ekonomie, die kwaliteitverbetering van Wiskunde en Wetenskap, en die ontwikkeling van entrepreneurskapsvaardighede. Daar word ook 'n verdere R210,455 miljoen oor die MTEF-periode geallokeer vir ons gestruktureerde landbou- en onderrig- en opleidingsprogram.

Met die ligte wat aan bly en die sistematiese vaardigheidsvlakverbetering en toevoeging van bekwame ambagsmanne tot die arbeidsmark, kan ons nou werklikwaar fokus op infrastruktuurontwikkeling wat nog meer werkseleenthede verseker vir die plaaslike gemeenskap, waar dit ook al sal

geskied.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr Deputy Speaker, by ensuring that the lights stay on we can then start talking about skills development, then it is made possible. Skills development: this Department has budgeted R196,555 million over the 2019 MTEF that primarily focusses on the coordination, facilitation and implementation of skills initiatives in our province.

Some of these initiatives include the focussed apprenticeship programmes, tradesman development, which is essential especially in our economic development zones, skills for the digital economy, the improvement of quality of Maths and Science, and the development of entrepreneurial skills. A further R210,455 million over the MTEF period is also allocated for our structured agricultural and education and training programmes.

With the lights staying on and the systematic improvement of skills levels and addition of competent tradesmen to the labour market, we can now really focus on infrastructure development which ensures even more job opportunities for the local community, wherever it may happen.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, over the 2019 METF an amount of R156,8 million has been allocated towards the Saldanha IDZ as a key catalytic driver for economic growth within the West Coast District. A further R96,562 million

has also been allocated towards the Atlantis Special Economic Zone for the manufacturing of green technologies and related services.

†Mnr die Adjunkspeaker, oor die 2019 MTEF is R197,274 miljoen geallokeer vir die promosie van handel- en beleggingsaktiwiteite in die provinsie wat fokus op die Afrika-mark as kernbelegging en handelsbestemming. Wesgro gaan ook hierdie beleggingspromosie verder dryf deur die vestiging van die munisipale distrikseenheid en Projek Hoop.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Mr Deputy Speaker, over the 2019 MTEF R197,274 million is allocated for the promotion of trade and investment activities in the province that focus on the Africa market as core investment and trade destination. Wesgro is also going to further drive this investment promotion through the establishment of the municipal district unit and Project Hope.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, over the last decade all our residents from Koffiehoek - which is in Minister Grant's constituency - to Lutzville in the West Coast, have experienced service delivery which was and still remains focused on maximising the impact for our end-users, and this has greatly been accomplished and made possible by a competent DA led Government, and our province is full of unlimited potential, Mr Deputy Speaker. We have communities which I have visited over the last three weeks, that continue to not lose hope, and we have youth that are truly experiencing the

opportunities made available to them, which is driven by an active DA led Government that truly cares and will still care after 8 May under our new Premier, who will expand on its successes, because as I said in the speech before ...[Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Do not count your chickens before [Inaudible.]

An HON MEMBER: When you can, you can, you can. [Interjections.]

Mr T A SIMMERS: ... we have opted to choose the road less travelled. If this is the successes that one province [Interjections.] can achieve in 10 years, imagine the change that this province will further experience, and hopefully this country, over the next 10 years. Thank you very much. That is why the DA supports this Vote. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.] I may greet you and the colleagues in the House [Interjections.] occasioned by this debate on the allocation and distribution of State resources to deliver services to our people in communities.

We gather here a week later, post a reminder of our painful past of injustice, which we all journeyed into and resolved to never repeat. We are agreed to reconfirm this day in correcting and redressing this past as Human Rights

Day. As a month of human rights it is proper for us as public reps
...[Interjections.]

The PREMIER: The ANC violates human rights [Inaudible.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... to pause and ask how a task of resource distribution
and allocation befits the character of a human rights culture.

South Africa accepted a Bill of Rights in sync with such [Interjections.] a
spirit, included that in there are socio-economic rights. Socio-economic
rights, as defined by one of the Human Rights Institute are defined as:

“Rights that give people access to certain basic things: resources,
opportunities and services needed to live a dignified life.”

How then does this budget rate in terms of its duty to protect, to respect,
promote and fulfil all the rights in the Bill of Rights fairly and equitably?

In the Department of Economic Development and Tourism’s five year
Strategic Plan 2015 to 2020, the Department commits to expand 550 small
businesses through financial and non-financial support measures by 2020.
Minister, perhaps you will answer better about the 22 small businesses that
were selected that you are mentioning in participating in the agri-processing,
because as part of that strategic outcome is the Department; one of the
commitments that you make is to in particular bring in small businesses in

the agri-processing, particularly to ensure strong linkage, both upstream in terms of primary agriculture, and downstream in terms of the wholesale, retail and restaurant.

So one is asking acknowledging Liandra, who was in the House, if she is still here and the other SMMEs that were brought into the House. How many in as far as the target that was set by the Department that have been delivered? How far has the Department realised its own strategic objective and intent?

In as far as access to finance. The same Department mentions, amongst others, to provide guarantee mechanisms beyond it, which is what we have observed of being a middleman between the National Government grants or loan schemes. What guarantee mechanisms or any innovative funding models for SMME have been produced by this Department?

One of the things that is also included in the strategic plan is access to local and export markets. Beyond the shows by Wesgro, show evidence of SMMEs with contracts from both local and international markets. We await to date significant interventions of this Department to women in wine - women that are producing wine under the treasure chest and others to help in securing orders in the international fairs as part of their venture to promote local wines.

How also in your partnership that you pride yourself with, Minister, of Pick n Pay have you managed to ensure that you encourage Pick n Pay, as also your

partner, to boost local economies, to include these local wines in their shelves, and how much sales, if any, were registered from that venture?

One of the things also included in the strat plan is lowering regulatory burdens. Minister Winde, who is your predecessor and now a Minister of Community Safety, over the couple of days [Interjections.], a week was handed a memorandum by local liquor traders from townships here in the streets of Wale Street on the regulatory burdens and red tape in accessing liquor licences, let alone that this particular function has been moved from this Department, DEDAT, to the Department of Community Safety, and as part of the delegation you also had street vendors and informal traders who were complaining about the lack of support from the Department, and instead finding themselves to be chased through law enforcement agencies instead of being recognised as small businesses who are also trying, like any other business, to firm and build their own economies.

So the question once again is what do these contrasting socio-economic realities mean for a human rights based Government of the Western Cape?

As we answer that particular question, one also wants to ask yourself, Minister, that if we talk about the local economic development function, one of the things in the strategic objective, I quote once again:

“That the Department has committed to support growth of regional economies and ensure, amongst others, to increase by

6% annually the LED maturity index.”

How far are you in so far as that commitment that was made by the Department itself?

One of the interesting things when one reads on the economy of the Western Cape; it is important to not only live with optics, and also the lamentations about immigration and inability to ensure urbanisation, it is actually embraced by this particular Government.

If one actually looks at some of the reports that are in the [Inaudible.] which I think I always take my hat off for the Minister of Finance about that particular report that he presents, to give also the reflection of the regional economies in this particular province.

If you were to link the growth of this provincial economy also to its sub-parts, which are the six regions of this province; on page 50 of the MERO, one of the things that it highlights is unemployment rate that has been on the upward trend since 2013 in the Cape Metro, which has actually increased from 20,3% in 2016 to 21,1% in 2017, and this is mainly in Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain at 31%, Cape Flats at 24,2%, Tygerberg at 18,3%.

On page 55 of that MERO Report again it says in as far as SMMEs, there remain serious challenges of SMMEs in the same districts or areas that I have just mentioned of Cape Flats and Khayelitsha.

Again it also speaks about challenges of skills and training in as far as those communities are concerned, which then questions their ability to participate in the economic opportunities and the growth potential presented by the provincial economy.

Interesting also in the same report, if one looks at page 153, contrasting to a non-Metro municipality, if you look at the West Coast District. On page 153 the report once again informs us that most workers in this district are low-skilled workers which are therefore susceptible to be laid off with dire socio-economic implications for that particular district, given the volatile economic environment that we live in.

These are what in one judgment by the courts on the socio-economic rights refer to as people in desperate circumstances, which I believe when we talk about the growth potential and we talk about the successes, we must always be able to measure ourselves with the most vulnerable people in our economy and also in our province.

As we do that also on page 184, it actually mentions Matzikama as one of the most unequal areas in the West Coast, with a Gini coefficient that is actually above all the other areas in that particular district.

So the question once again is how do we then read the growth and celebrate this economic growth of the Western Cape in contrast to its sub-parts, which are these local economies. I think in the committee we have made the

necessary noise every time we meet, even at the time you were a Chairperson, to raise this particular matter of the integration of the economy. So that you do not only see a 71% contribution of the Metro economy in the provincial economy, but you also work on ramping up the other economies so that you can actually deal with also in-migration where people are looking for opportunities in the City. One also welcomes I think what you have just mentioned about the SMMEs stimulus, the district unit that will be at Wesgro, and also I think the initiative that was reported by the Department on trying to bring in townships and regions into the tourism approach of the Department.

Those are welcomed and actually give credit also to the members of this committee for the work that they have done in the lobbying of the Department, to really try and move beyond optics and we get to the real business of the Department.

Having said that, Mr Deputy Speaker, one of the things that I think is very important for us as we debate here, is that when we talk about these socio-economic rights, these rights are given strong protection in our Constitution, and South Africa has committed to redressing the past wrongs and improving the quality of life of its people.

So that remains ...[Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Oh really?

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... a responsibility that we all ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... must take very serious as the different spheres of government.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon member, your time has expired, but just finish off your last sentence.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. As I conclude then, it is important also to note that we caution the use of consultants as on page 683 of our Blue Book. In Programme 2 there is about 204% increase in Goods and Services from R10,4 million to R31,6 million. Again on page 687 in Programme 3 there is ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member, you are going too far now.

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... about R1,2 million increase on Goods and Services from one ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... to R3,2 million.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time has really expired.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. The next speaker is the hon member Reagan Allen.

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: My apology, it is actually the [Interjections. - laughter] Minister [Laughs] ... the Minister to respond. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: That is [Inaudible.] ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may take your seat, you may take your seat. [Interjections.] Minister Schäfer, Minister [Laughs.] [Interjections.] ... Order! Chief Whip? [Interjections.] Chief Whip?

Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I must object. You have frightened my member so badly [Interjections.] he is going to have to take a toilet break now [Laughter.] and we may lose our quorum but I do want to object again - this is the fourteenth vote over three days where neither the ACDP nor the

EFF have fulfilled their responsibility to their voters to represent their interests ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member.

Mr M G E WILEY: ... as far as the Budget is concerned.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you ...[Interjections.]

Mr M G E WILEY: It is an absolute disgrace. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The Minister to respond, Minister Schäfer.
[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Do you want hon member Allan to speak?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: So, Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you very much to the hon members who have made their contributions here today, but I think really important, let us not forget this: this is a report card of this Western Cape Government, and it basically states - and these stats can be proved - 82% of the 2018 budget is for indigent communities. This is an 82% pro-poor budget.

This is an 82% pro-poor budget.

So when we talk about economic development, let us [Interjections.] not forget 0,78% of the total budget. They do a whole lot more above their weight ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes! [Applause.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... than what they have.

An HON MEMBER: Which is what exactly?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: If you read the book you will understand.
[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Well, just look at our stats, our employment ...[Interjections.]

The PREMIER: What a disgrace.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... stats to understand and to look at the work that we are doing on the youth [Interjections.] and skills programmes to understand.

An HON MEMBER: No, man.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: But I think what is really important is of the 22 agri-processing companies, amongst the successes [Interjections.] the group recorded.

- 73% of the businesses have acquired new clients and have increased the number of customers [Interjections.] that they have had.
- 68% of the businesses have launched and commercialised ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Order!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... new projects into the market.

- 36% have entered new market segments and to reach new and more customers.
- 55% of companies [Interjections.] are now represented in new geographic market and regions.

And also 12 of the companies surveyed can provide mid-year sales information; of these 75% indicated that their sales figures have increased.

Of the business Natural Beauty, for example, has seen an increase in sales of

its teen range through its online platforms, and while this is seen as an increase in their order book, the increase still needs to be quantified. [Interjections.]

So however its brands geared at the adult skincare market [Interjections.] we have seen an increase of 33% in in-store sales through the Wellness Warehouse chain.

The programme has also helped brands enter the market in Gauteng and in three new Wellness Warehouse stores across South Africa. Eight of the companies could provide data on profit performance and of these 75% of the - both businesses indicated that their profitability had improved.

At Herbal View Hydroponics, for example - because you asked me to talk about these 22 businesses - the migration from primary agriculture produced to value added process items, created an estimated, an increase of around 20% in sales while maintaining a steady cash flow due to the margins attained.

So thus far 28 new jobs have been created with more confidence that they will be employing more people within the next six months.

So really these companies that we are talking about really are benefitting from the programmes that we have.

In terms of our funding models. We partner with the NEF to provide fast loans. The Small Enterprise Financing Agency is a national function and we have a small grant system for equipment and plant, and then at our funding fair opportunity is also available, and remember that the kiosks across in Long Street are operating at no rental costs.

We can also say that we have got an investment readiness programme [Interjections.] as well as those for companies who are ready to take their next step and expanding their businesses. [Interjections.]

Also I want to say that in my 10 years as Chair, or as the Standing Committee, I ensured that Wesgro presented on their programmes to assist businesses in all areas. I am not sure if you attended those sessions, or perhaps, hon member Nkondlo, but you have been very much part of this programme. There is not an isolation of small business or small SMMEs or the informal traders.

In terms of the informal trading, I want to talk about that. That is a key focus area in the next term [Interjections.]. What I must emphasise there really and it is the research that is coming out, it has been done in collaboration with the City of Cape Town [Interjections.], and independent partners, and ourselves to the informal trading sector, but really I cannot vouch for information traders getting fines by law enforcement officers, because they are possibly trading illegally. I mean at the end of the day ... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You do not know that.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... I am not quite sure what the merits ... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You do not know that.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: ... of that story is but the point of the matter is we do not overlook any informal traders. We believe that the informal market and the informal economy is a huge and valuable market in contributing [Interjections.] and particularly securing the poorest of the poor with jobs.

Remember we want to make sure that in every house there is at least one person earning work and earning income.

In terms of [Interjections.] ...

Mr Q R DYANTYI: So it is so bad for us [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: In terms of your socio-economic rights [Interjections.] ... I really think at the end of the day and at the final point, hon member Nkondlo, while you continue to have a conversation with our members across the House here [Interjections.], this committee that you sit on, has

always done great oversight work over the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. We know that this Department is doing a whole lot more as I have stated, and I really do [Interjections.] actually in the interest of all of them, want to thank them for the work they do. I have been working obviously as the new Minister very closely with them, really understanding the skills that they have and I have to say that I appreciated the work that this Department churns out, because without them and their relationship with business out there, we would not have the numbers we have today. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

The PREMIER: Hear-hear!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. That concludes the debate on this Vote. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Only to vote.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. We will suspend for a short while and then resume with the third Order. The House is suspended.

[Business of the House was suspended at 11:49 and resumed at 11:52]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be seated. [Interjections.] Order. The Secretary will read the third Order.

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Votes and Schedules – *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 1 - 2019].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I put to vote separately, can I enquire from the ANC – are they going to do one declaration up front? I see the hon Davids. Declaration of Vote.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker [Interjections.] Ag, Premier, I do not take note of you. You ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: ...are just a rude person [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: The ANC welcomes the money and compulsory programs of the national ANC in budget 2019 [Interjections.] but not the DA's distortion. We do differ with this DA Provincial Government in how it handles discretionary expenditure [Interjections.] yet it is still rooted in inequality and poverty. The DA is not doing enough to assist the poor and ordinary people's plight. It is especially evident in how it favours big businesses and gives rich developers priority instead of deciding in favour of the poor. The DA could not offer us any alternative. It is only driven by hate and fear. [Interjections.] It is a party torn apart and internally eaten by its

own. The DA showed its hands openly [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Ms S W DAVIDS: ...by [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Allow the member please to continue.
[Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: The DA shows its hands openly by not integrating communities and building social cohesion on vast tracks of public land. The land was sold to the “haves” and the “have nots” are again overlooked. The ANC prepares for the new dawn of [Interjections.] of President Ramaphosa to lead the ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: ...whole of South Africa, including the Western Cape.
†Die ANC kan nie hierdie begroting ondersteun nie [Tussenwerpsels.] want die mense by die hospitale wag nog steeds ... [Tussenwerpsels.] The ANC cannot support this budget [Interjections.] because the people at the hospitals are still waiting ... [Interjections.]]

†‘n AGBARE LID: Is dit Carol se mense?

[An HON MEMBER: Are they Carol’s people?]

†Me S W DAVIDS: ...drie dae voor hulle gehelp word. Hulle kan met 'n piekniekmandjie ... [Tussenwerpsels.]

[Ms S W DAVIDS: ...three days before they are being helped. They can go to the hospitals ... [Interjections.]]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

†Me S W DAVIDS: ...na die hospitale gaan. 'n Vrou in die hospitaal in die Kaap het 'n maand [Tussenwerpsels.] in Mitchells Plain, het 'n maand haar ma gesoek nadat sy haar ma in die hospitaal gelos het en toe kry sy haar ma in die doodshuis. [Tussenwerpsels.] Daar is vuil areas orals in die arm gemeenskappe. Sosiale probleme wat [Tussenwerpsels.] wat nie aangespreek word nie [Tussenwerpsels.]

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Ms S W DAVIDS: ... with a picnic basket. A woman in the hospital in the Cape had looked for a month [Interjections.] in Mitchells Plain, looked for her mother after she had left her at the hospital, and then she found her mother in the mortuary. [Interjections.] There are dirty areas everywhere in the poor communities. Social problems that [Interjections.] are not being addressed [Interjections.]]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, order.

†Me S W DAVIDS: ...soos alkohol en dwelmmisbruik; plaaswerkers wat nog steeds soos gister teen die pad gesit sonder 'n uitsettingsbevel in die Paarl; huise wat gebou is in Foreshore, in die Stad Kaapstad, sonder krag aansluitings; paaie wat nog steeds onveilig is vir voetgangers; apartheid *spatial plan* wat nog steeds gevolg word; informele handelaars wat nog steeds geen ondersteuning kry nie; plaaswerkers wat sit sonder water, sanitasie en wat in die bos hulself moet gaan verlig. Informele nedersettings wat opgegradeer word, maar die groter persentasie van hulle moet nog steeds van kanne gebruik maak om hulself te verlos en vuil water drink. [Tussenwerpsels.] Geen publieke deelname nie en daarom spreek hierdie begroting nie tot die invloed en die nood van die mense in die Wes-Kaap nie. Hoeveel kinders tussen die ouderdom van 3 en 6 hardloop nog in die strate rond wat nie in *ECD's* is nie? Die gemeenskap [Tussenwerpsels.] het nie 'n toelaag nie en kan dit nie bekostig nie. Ongelykheid en armoede [Tussenwerpsels.] is aan die orde van die dag [Tussenwerpsels.]

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Ms S W DAVIDS: ... like alcohol and drug abuse; farm workers who yesterday still were sitting next to the road in Paarl without an eviction order; houses that had been built in Foreshore, in the City of Cape Town, without electricity connections; roads that are still unsafe for pedestrians; apartheid spatial plan that is still followed; informal traders that still do not get support; farm workers who are without water, sanitation and who have to go and relieve themselves in the bush. Informal settlements that are

upgraded, but the larger percentage of them still have to use buckets to relieve themselves and drink dirty water. [Interjections.] No public participation, and therefore this budget does not speak to the influence and the need of the people of the Western Cape. How many children between the ages of 3 and 6 are still running around in the streets who are not in ECD's? The community [Interjections.] has no allowance and cannot afford it. Inequality and poverty [Interjections.] is at the order of the day. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Ms S W DAVIDS: The very ill liberal DA cannot be trusted, and we cannot support a provincial budget [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order member, just finish off, your time has expired. Just finish off. [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: ...with the directionless of the DA fingerprints on it. The ANC opposes the entire budget and will after election put in place the real budget for the people of the Western Cape [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms S W DAVIDS: ...that will grow South Africa and the province together. I thank you. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. [Interjections.] Order members, please come to order. [Interjections.] We need to go through the Votes now and it is technical stuff so please bear with us. The ANC will be dissenting on all the Votes? That is the intention. Did I put Votes 1 to 14? No objection.

Mr M G E WILEY: No objection.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Agreed to with the ANC dissenting on all 14 Votes. I will now put the – let me just see where we are now – put 11, 12, 14. We have done 14 Votes. I put the Schedule. Any objection to the Schedule?

Mr M G E WILEY: No.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is an objection to the Schedule. The ANC's dissention will be recorded. I then put Clauses 1 to 10. Any objections?

Mr M G E WILEY: No.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is an objection. The ANC's objection will be recorded. I put the Short Title. Any objections to that?

Mr M G E WILEY: No.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to that. Short Title is agreed to. That disposes of the third Order. We move on to the fourth Order. The Secretary

will read the fourth Order first.

The SECRETARY: Finalisation of the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 1 – 2019]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see Minister Meyer.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Premier, and the Leader of Government: Business. The Third Reading concludes the 2019/2020 budget process for the Western Cape Government. This is a process which started in August 2018. It followed many engagements at departmental, ministerial, Budget Policy Committee and at Cabinet level. At the centre of the budget process is the MTEK process and further technical assessments.

The Budget Committee and various standing committees also plays an important and significant role in the Legislature during the passing of the budget. The Ministers, accounting officers, CFO's play a central role in making budget requests, debating the reasons, providing the evidence and displaying innovation in their respective fields.

A theme for this year was a budget for maximum citizen impact. After carefully reading and listening to the various Budget Votes in this Chamber, I am satisfied that this Government's mandate is reflected in the carefully crafted Budget Votes. I therefore submit, hon Deputy Speaker, the Third

Reading of the Budget 2019/2020 to the House as per the rules governing money bills in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I now move that the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* 2019/2020 be finalised and be submitted to the Premier to be assented to. I thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the Bill being finalised? There is an objection. The ANC's objection will be recorded. The Secretary will read the Bill.

The SECRETARY: *Western Cape Appropriation Bill.*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Bill will be sent to the Premier for assent. The Secretary will read the fifth Order.

The SECRETARY: Consideration and Finalisation of the *Western Cape Special Economic Development Infrastructure Company Bill* [B 3 – 2019]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If there is a need for declarations, the parties will be given that opportunity to make declarations if they so wish. No? ANC? Hon Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. As the ANC we support the Bill and also want to make a note to the House about the issue that we

have also raised and discussed in the committee around improving our public participation framework and also support to ensure that we give meaning and effective public voice into the processes of legislation as part of the legislative arm of Government, as the province. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Anybody from the DA? Hon Simmers.

Mr T A SIMMERS: Mr Deputy Speaker, as the Democratic Alliance we also support the Bill, given its ultimate impact on the quality of lives of the targeted communities for which it is envisaged. Thank you.

An HON MEMBER: What?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I take it there is no objection to the Bill being finalised? [Interjections.] No objections? The Secretary will read the Bill.

The SECRETARY: *Western Cape Special Economic Development Infrastructure Company Bill.*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Bill will also be sent to the Premier for her assent. The Secretary will read the sixth Order.

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Standing Committee on Economic Opportunities, Tourism and Agriculture on the *Property Practitioners Bill* [B 21B – 2018] – Ratification of Mandate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. The Legislature received the report of the Standing Committee on Economic Opportunities, Tourism and Agriculture on the Property Practitioners Bill, conferring authority on the Western Cape delegation in the NCOP to support this Bill. This mandate was then sent to the NCOP. Would parties want to take the opportunity for declarations? Hon Nkondlo first.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you Deputy Speaker. As the ANC once again, we support this piece of legislation, in particular as its intention is to work towards the transformation of the property sector itself and we believe that it will go a long way with the amendments that have been made in the committee, subsequent to inputs of members of the public and some from the industry. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. The hon Simmers.

Mr T A SIMMERS: Mr Deputy Speaker, transforming the South African property market, ensuring that it is reflective and inclusive of our country's demographics is one of the main reasons behind the introduction of the Property Practitioners Bill. As the Democratic Alliance we fully support the right to private property and ownership as enshrined in Section 25 of the great Constitution and we welcome any piece of legislation which promotes and protects this right as part of a free market economy and a free, fair and liberal society.

Consequently, we welcome the Property Practitioners Bill as it creates alignment and synergy to the Constitution and other relevant legislation pertaining to the property market; seeks to enhance corporate efficiency and embarks on a drive to professionalise South Africa's real estate industry.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we further support the Property Practitioners Bill for the following reasons: Firstly this Bill will provide a legislative framework to cater to new market conditions which have slowly dictated a paradigm shift from traditional practices within the real estate industry. It is inclusive of all role players and stakeholders. It aligns legislation to new market conditions and constitutional imperatives. It addresses deep seated asperities in respect of the level of participation and representation within the property market and it encourages greater compliance with good corporate governance, ethos and principles.

Mr Deputy Speaker, if property ownership and the handing out of title deeds to previously disadvantaged South Africans is the starting point for economic transformation in our country, the Property Practitioners Bill will only make this process easier, inclusive and more relevant than ever before. It is therefore that the Democratic Alliance supports this Bill as a necessary means to ensure property ownership, which is the only means to truly allow South Africans to generate generational and sustainable wealth. This is the only solid way of ensuring real economic change to tackle inequality in our country and in our lifetime.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Democratic Alliance supports this Bill. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, there is therefore no objection to the ratification of the conferment of authority on the Western Cape's delegation in the NCOP to support this Bill. The Secretary will read the seventh Order.

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Budget Committee on the *Division of Revenue Bill* [B 5 – 2019] – Ratification of Mandate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. The House received the report of the Budget Committee on the Division of Revenue Bill, conferring authority on the Western Cape delegation in the NCOP not to support this Bill. This mandate has been sent to the NCOP. I will allow opportunities for declarations. Hon Beerwinkel.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Just yesterday you were witness to the MEC of Human Settlements jumping up and down when I was pointing out where conditional grants come from and where you would find them in the Division of Revenue book [Interjections.] Five minutes ago, exactly five minutes ago the budget of R68,3 billion was accepted by this DA Government. Now, five minutes later they are rejecting the very document [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Object.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: ...in which the budget is made up of – R51 billion of equitable share. R12 billion conditional grants making up 97%, 4,3 is their own revenue. 97% of the budget [Interjections.] comes from this very Bill that they are now rejecting. What absurdity is that, Deputy Speaker? [Interjections.] It is absurd! The very Bill that you are now rejecting is the Bill that forms the very basis of your total budget. We cannot understand this kind of reasoning, thank you [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Is there somebody on the DA's side? Hon Joseph? [Interjections.]

Mr D JOSEPH: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, order! [Interjections.]

Mr D JOSEPH: The Budget Committee voted against the division of revenue in the negotiating and the final mandate [Interjections.] They accept that 93% of the Western Cape Budget is transferred from National Government, but we want to stress again to the ANC – this is the money of all the taxpayers, including the Western Cape [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr D JOSEPH: Mr Deputy Speaker, the reason why the Western Cape [Interjections.] is objecting to this budget coming from national in the

division of revenue [Interjections.] is because of the equitable share and we have linked this to the population growth that is faster than the budget – bigger than the budget we are getting that we are struggling to implement the service in the Western Cape in line with the population growth that is in the Western Cape. And that is the challenge – to provide for education, [Interjections.] for roads, for infrastructure and clinics .

And then we have said this in our negotiating mandate and the final mandate that if it not be for National Government to waste the money on State-owned Entities and on Eskom, more money will actually then come to the provinces. [Interjections.] The interesting part of the report from the NCOP is that the ANC provinces also support the budget, they support the division of revenue to the provinces, but they make the same points in saying the equitable share is not fair to them and they link it further to their medical claims submitted to the provinces, for which they do not have enough money to pay out the public in the Health Department. And interestingly enough that, Limpopo is also asking for money to improve their rail services.

So it is not only the Western Cape that has got a problem with the rail services here, that they want to improve [Interjections.] The other provinces are – the NCOP made that same claim years ago. [Interjections.] They want to introduce a better rail service. So, the Western Cape claim is not out of line. It is in line with the other provinces that the ANC also wants to improve the Western Cape as the Western Cape wants to improve rail services. So, Deputy Speaker, we cannot support a budget that come from national, that

come from an ANC Government that is not accountable to the people as stated in the National Development Plan. I thank you. We reject.
[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Order. There is an objection. I therefore put the question: those in favour of the report being adopted and that the mandate conferred to the Western Cape Provincial delegation in the NCOP not to support the Bill be ratified, will say "Aye".

HON MEMBERS: Aye.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Those against, "No".

HON MEMBERS: No.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the Aye's have it. The ANC's dissention will be recorded. [Interjections.] Order. Order. I will suspend business just for a short while for the Speaker to take the chair.

[Business of the House was suspended at 12:10 and resumed at 12:12]

The SPEAKER: You may take your seats. [Interjections.] Order please, members. We had an incident in the House on the day of SOPA and I undertook to come back to the House, and since today is the final sitting before we rise I have a ruling which I need to deliver after which we will go

to the eighth Order of the Day.

During the Premier's State of the Province Address on 15 February 2019, members of the ANC decided to withdraw from the Chamber. On their way out, certain members verbally engaged guests in the Speaker's bay and insults were allegedly hurled. I undertook during the sitting of that day to pursue the matter and peruse the footage of the sitting and I have also consulted with the Table staff on duty that day. I must add, I have received correspondence from the hon member Nkondlo, member Dijana, the Leader of Government Business and also from a member of the public who was present at the sitting on the day.

Responses to the specific issues raised in the correspondence mentioned above will be addressed to the individuals in the next little while. I have had the opportunity to examine the available footage of the proceedings of the House as well as the Hansard transcription of the debate and wish to confirm that this ugly incident took place in a really short space of time, this whilst members of the ANC were exiting the Chamber.

The footage does not provide evidence of a member of the public attending the SOPA at any stage during the proceedings, disrupting the proceedings and therefore no contravention of Rule 6 of the Standing Rules took place. It was also at no stage of the proceedings necessary for me to incur the provisions of Rule 7 related to the conduct of members of the public.

Furthermore, there is no evidence that a member of the public contravened the Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act of 2004, based on the audio and the Hansard transcript. Members holding a different view on the matter are free to lay a charge in terms of the relevant law with the South African Police Services for investigation.

Prof Maree, a guest in the Speaker's bay on that day, admitted to having made remarks to members on their way out of the Chamber saying, that, and I quote "You were very rude and disrespectful". This clearly is not in keeping with the Rules relevant to guests in the gallery. I have since written to Prof Maree in this regard and drawn his attention to this fact.

As for the use of foul language by members, by hon members, I wish to note the following: Footage of the proceedings in the House when members of the ANC were leaving the Chamber did indicate engagement between members and guests, but the sound quality made it impossible to hear what was said during the engagement.

People in close proximity to the Speaker's bay allegedly heard derogatory and insulting remarks and profanities being levelled at guests. The Leader of Government Business in a letter to me, alleged that members Dijana and Nkondlo shouted at guests in the Speaker's bay, using the word, and I will not say it. It says "F*** you".

I am now going to ask the hon member Nkondlo whether such foul language was directed at the guest in the gallery. Member Nkondlo, did you indeed utter those words, “F*** you”?

Ms N D NKONDLO: Speaker, I never uttered those words. So I must never be accused here of something that I did not ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Member Nkondlo I asked, have you said those words? If not, you say “Yes” or “No”. If you said “No”, I need to accept your word that you have said that in terms of the Rules. [Interjections.] I must though for the record state in the absence of the hon Dijana that when she left the Chamber, I heard her say “Voertsek” and that is totally unacceptable, and it is indeed a sad day for this institution when members choose to resort to language like that whilst the nation is watching. That is the ruling. We will now move to the eighth Order of the Day. The Secretary will read.

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Rules Committee on the Review of Rules.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I have been informed by the Chief Whip that the Programming Authority resolved that there would be no list of speakers and that parties who wish to do so will now be afforded an opportunity to make a declaration on the report for a maximum of three minutes. I recognise if anyone from the ANC is going to do a declaration on Order eight. No declaration. I see the DA.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I gladly support the report of the Rules Committee submitting a set of revised Rules to the House. These Rules are the result of some 12 constructive meetings of the sub-committee on the review of the Rules. Let me say at the outset that our existing Rules have served us well over many years and it was therefore not necessary to amend our Rules left, right and centre, simply for the sake of amending them.

I do, however, believe that the set of Rules that we present today is an improvement on the existing Rules. Rules must never be regarded as cast in stone and final and the Sixth Parliament may well resolve in due course to affect further changes. Some Rules have been amended to bring more clarity without changing procedures at all, while others were amended to improve the procedures of the House and committees.

Let me just briefly refer to a few of the more substantive changes. The Rule providing for members statements has been amended to allow for one Minister at the end of all statements to respond for not longer than five minutes to one or more of the statements. We believe this innovation will make statement time more vibrant and meaningful.

We have also increased the time for an interpellation from 15 minutes to 20 minutes. This will also allow more time for the relevant Minister to respond.

The chapter on definitions has also been included. The procedure for the

appointment of Whips has been made clearer.

In future all Standing Committee Chairpersons will be elected from among the members of the committee only and not be appointed simply by tabling a name in the ATC.

In future committees will have the power to decide for themselves if circumstances so require, to meet beyond the seat of Parliament.

The Rules Committee's powers and functions have also been defined more clearly. A rule specifying what would qualify as a point of order has been included. We believe this will assist members and will hopefully lead to fewer frivolous or non-qualifying points of order being raised.

Lastly, we have broken new ground by inserting a rule that the House must adopt a policy providing for leave of absence of members for maternity and other parental and family related purposes.

I wish to thank the members of the sub-committee, the hon Wiley and the hon Uys for their contributions and cooperation in the committee and I am happy to report that we were able to find consensus on all the Rules. I also wish to thank Mr Nkabinde and Adv Le Roux and all the procedural staff who were involved and who gave us invaluable technical and administrative support. We believe the Sixth Parliament will be richer with this set of amended Rules.

Madam Speaker, this is my last opportunity to speak in this House and please allow me to express my gratitude to all members of the House for having made it possible for me over the last seven years to do my work as Deputy Speaker in the way I could. I have tried to be as impartial, fair and objective as possible while presiding. [Interjections.] Whether I succeeded in that goal is not for me to judge, but for the House. All I can say is that when you are criticised by members from your own party for the way you have dealt with them from the Chair, you know you are probably doing something right.

†Agb Speaker, in my tyd in hierdie Huis as Sekretaris en as Adjunkspeaker was hier baie ernstige debatte, maar hier was ook ligter oomblikke. Vergun my om op hierdie laaste dag van die sessie en die einde van die termyn, na net twee van daardie ligter oomblikke te verwys.

Ek sal nooit die dag vergeet toe 'n prominente voorbanker baie opgewerk was en 'n ontstuiimige toespraak hier gelewer het nie. Daar was baie spoeg en baie handgebare. In die proses om sy punt te maak, het sy kunstande met 'n boog deur die lug getrek en die beste van alles was, hy kon dit in een beweging vang en weer terugdruk en verder praat asof niks gebeur het nie!

En dan was daar die onnutsige lid wat altyd poetse gebak het. 'n Nuwe lid moes hier in die Huis ingesweer word en hierdie stout lid wou sy nuwe kollega op sy eie unieke manier verwelkom. Hy het die nuwe lid vertel dat inswering hier by ons anderster is as by enige ander plek.

Hy sê toe vir hom, as die Speaker die eed voorlees en jy aan die einde moet sê “So help my God”, dan moet jy op aandag spring, jou hakke teen mekaar skop en in een beweging jouself agter jou kop klap en dis toe presies wat gebeur het! Die lid het die eed mooi herhaal soos wat die Speaker dit aan hom voorgelees het en toe hy by “So help my God” kom, trek hy soos ‘n soldaat los en skop sy voete met ‘n harde geklap teen mekaar en kap homself met die regterhand teen die agterkop. Die Tafel-amptenare is nie veronderstel om hardop te lag nie, maar daardie dag het hulle saam met die res van die Huis gelag.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

Madam Speaker, in my time in this House as Secretary and as Deputy Speaker there have been some very serious debates, but there have also been lighter moments. Allow me on this last day of the session and at the end of the term to refer to just two of those lighter moments.

I will never forget the day when a prominent front bencher was very excited and delivered a stormy speech here. There was a lot of spit and many hand gestures. In the process of making his point, his false teeth arched through the air and best of all was that he could catch it in one move and put it back and speak further as if nothing had happened!

And then there was the naughty member who always played tricks. A new member had to be sworn in here in the House and this naughty member

wanted to welcome his new colleague in his own unique way. He told the new member that swearing-in here with us was different from any other place.

He then said to him, if the Speaker reads the oath and you have to say at the end “So help me God”, you must jump to attention, kick your heels together and in one movement slap yourself behind the head, and that is exactly what then happened! The member repeated the oath nicely as the Speaker read it to him, and when he got to ‘So help me God”, he kicked his heels together with a loud crack like a true soldier and slapped himself behind the head with his right hand. The Table staff are not supposed to laugh out loud but that day they laughed with the rest of the House.

Madam Speaker, I end my career in a way I could never have dreamt of when I walked through the doors of the National Parliament – the then National Parliament – for the first time as a young Hansard reporter, 45 years ago. I am grateful for opportunities which came my way in the legislative sector over four decades, including being Secretary to the Senate, Secretary to this House for more than eight years and culminating in serving in the National Assembly for three years and being your Deputy Speaker for the last seven years.

I wish to thank all the staff in this institution for their friendship, for their support and for their dedicated service over many years. You are the backbone of this institution and provide the continuity while members come and go. Keep up the good work!

Lastly I wish every member well in your future endeavours, be it in this House, be it in one of the Houses of National Parliament or be it as a retiree in your private house. And finally, Madam Speaker, I think I have now qualified to also write my name in the drawer of my desk, and I will do so before I leave. I thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I have allowed the Deputy Speaker some room to move there. We were busy with the eighth Order of the Day and this concludes the debate on this report. I then need to ask, are there any objections to the report being adopted? There are no objections. Agreed to.

Then as is tradition, I will now afford one representative of parties present, unfortunately we do not have the EFF and the ANC [Interjections.] an opportunity – sorry, my apologies, ANC! The ACDP, not ANC, ACDP and EFF. I think the voters are going to be confused with that voters' roll too – an opportunity to address the House on the occasion of the end of the parliamentary term. I see the ANC.

†Me S W DAVIDS: Ek gaan Afrikaans praat.

[Ms S W DAVIDS: I am going to speak Afrikaans.]

†Die SPEAKER: Jy mag, agb Davids.

[The SPEAKER: You may, hon Davids.]

†Me S W DAVIDS: Dankie, Speaker.

[Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you, Speaker.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Namens Paarl.

[An HON MEMBER: On behalf of Paarl.]

†Me S W DAVIDS: Nee, nie namens Paarl nie. Ek is 'n kind van die Wes-Kaap, nie net Paarl nie. Vanmiddag is dit vir my 'n groot geleentheid om met een en elkeen van ons te praat hier teenwoordig. Ons moet eerstens vir die Hemelse Vader dankie sê vir 'n vyf jaar wat Hy vir ons almal deurgedra het. Niemand van ons is met die hand van die dood of met siekte belas nie. So, daarvoor moet ons vir die Here baie dankie sê en veral ook vir hulle wat later aangesluit het by ons.

Maar vandag wil ek ook dankie sê vir die ANC vir 'n geleentheid wat hy vir ons wat hier aan hierdie kant sit gegee het om die party te verteenwoordig. Ja, ons was die Opposisie, maar ek dink my kollegas, ek wil vir julle sê julle was goed in wat julle gedoen het. Al sien mense dit nie daar buite nie, maar mense hier binne en dié wat hier was het gesien dat julle die ANC goed verteenwoordig en daarvoor sê ons ook vir die Here dankie.

Dan wil ek kom na die DA. Jy weet toe ons die eerste keer hier inkom was ons ook maar nuut. Baie van ons het uit verskillende rigtings uit gekom en ons is in portefeuljes gesit waar ons ook maar moes geswem het, maar ek dink ons het goed geswem, maar ek wil vir julle dankie sê wat aanvaar het

dat dit wat ons sê was nie persoonlik teen julle nie. Dit gaan oor die mense daarbuite vir wie ons verteenwoordig en dit gaan veral ook oor ons party, dat ons ons party se beleide moet verteenwoordig. So, ek sê vir julle dankie en ons het baie by julle geleer en ek glo daar is van julle wat kan sê dat julle ook baie by van ons geleer het hier aan die kant.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Ms S W DAVIDS: No, not on behalf of Paarl. I am a child of the Western Cape, not just Paarl. This afternoon it is a great moment for me to speak to each and everyone present here. First of all we have to thank our Heavenly Father for the five years that He has supported us. Not one of us was struck by the hand of death or illness. So, for that we have to thank the Lord, and also especially for those who have joined us later.

But today I also want to thank the ANC for the opportunity they have given us sitting on this side to represent the party. Yes, we were Opposition, but I think my colleagues, I want to tell you, you were good in what you have been doing. Even if the people out there do not see it, the people in here and those who have been here have seen that you have represented the ANC well and for that we also thank the Lord.

Then I want to come to the DA. You know, when we came in here for the first time we were new. Many of us had come from different directions and we were placed in portfolios where we just had to swim, but I think we had

swum well, but I want to thank you who accepted that what we said was not against you personally. It is about the people out there whom we represent and it is especially also about our party, that we have to represent our party's policies. So, I thank you and we have learnt a lot from you and I believe there are some of you who can say you have also learnt a lot from us on this side.]

†'n AGBARE LID: By *member* Beerwinkel.

[An HON MEMBER: From member Beerwinkel.]

†Me S W DAVIDS: Ja, ek het ook baie by *member* Beerwinkel geleer en by *member* Uys en *member* Cameron, Nkondlo en almal van hulle en selfs by van julle het ek baie geleer en toe ons op Wits was veral. Die mense, van julle wat saam met ons op Wits was – daar het ons ook al as Wes-Kaap saamgestaan teen die ander provinsies. So dis nie aldag dat ons baklei het nie en vir die uitgaande Premier wil ek net sê dat daar was nooit enige harde gevoelens van ons was aan u nie, maar partykeer is dit net hoe u dinge sê wat vir ons opgewarm het, maar in ons harte is daar geen haat vir u nie en u het u werk besonder gedoen en daardeur gaan ons dit nie afstry nie, want u is 'n vrou en ons as vrouens moet vir u bystaan, maar ons moet ook sien hoe ons met mekaar praat want partykeer wil die lelik nie na vore kom nie, maar as ek 'n seer woord kry gaan ek ook myself verdedig teen daai seer woord.

Aan die *Chief Whip* van die DA wil ons dankie sê. Selfs aan ons eie *Whip*.

Aan die *Deputy Speaker*, u was kostelik. Ek het baie by u geleer. U was rêrig

kostelik. U was nooit *biased* nie. Speaker, u was baie *biased* [Gelag.] maar die *Deputy Speaker* was nooit *biased* nie. Hy het altyd vir ons almal dieselfde hanteer en daarvoor sê ek vir u dankie.

Aan my *Chairperson*, Maseko en my vorige *Chairperson*, Beverley, en al ons *Chairpersons* hier, dankie ook vir hoe julle vir ons hanteer het in die komiteevergaderings want al het julle daar met ons verskil, het julle maar altyd ook vir julle *MEC's* kom op-cover. [Lag – Gelag.] So, daarvoor, dit gaan oor julle party, daai verstaan ons, maar moenie dat ons – ons is eerste mense voor ons politieke leiers is. Ons is eerste mense, en dit is wat ons altyd moet onthou. Ons is eerste mense en ons moet mense soos mense hanteer, maar ek het baie geleer. Ek glo my leiers het baie geleer en ek sê vir julle baie, baie dankie.

Dankie vir die wetgewing wat vir ons die geleentheid gegee het om hier te wees. Dankie vir julle wat vir ons altyd so kon reggehelp het. Ek kan onthou die eerste keer toe [Tussenwerpsels.] die Speaker vir my 'n briefie stuur, ek moet kom *Chair* toe, daarna toe, julle sal nooit weet hoe het ek gebewe nie!

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Ms S W DAVIDS: Yes, I have also learnt a lot from member Beerwinkel and from member Uys and member Cameron, Nkondlo and all of them and I have even learnt a lot from you and especially when we were together at Wits. The people, some of you who were with us at Wits – there already we stood

together as Western Cape against the other provinces. So it was not often that we fought and to the outgoing Premier I want to say that there never have been any hard feelings from our side toward you, but sometimes it is just how you say things that got us warmed, but in our hearts there is no hate toward you and you have done your job exceptionally and we are not going to dispute that because you are a woman and we as women should support you, but we also have to look at how we address each other because sometimes the ugly will not come forth, but if I get a hurting word I am going to defend myself against that hurting word.

To the Chief Whip of the DA we want to say thank you. Even to our own Whip. To the Deputy Speaker, you were precious. I have learnt a lot from you. You were really precious. You were never biased. Speaker, you were very biased [Laughter.] but the Deputy Speaker was never biased. He always treated us all the same and for that I thank you.

To my Chairperson, Maseko and my previous Chairperson, Beverley, and all our Chairpersons here, thank you also for how you treated us in the committee meetings because even if you have differed from us there, you have always just come to cover up for your MEC's [Laughs – Laughter.]. So, for that, it is about your party, that we understand, but do not let us – we are people first before we are political leaders. We are first of all people, and that is what we have to always keep in mind. We are people first and we should treat people like people, but I have learnt a lot. I believe my leaders have learnt a lot and I say to you thank you very, very much.

Thank you for the legislation that gave us the opportunity to be here. Thanks to you who could always help us. I can recall the first time when [Interjections.] the Speaker sent me a note, I must come to the Chair, you will never know how much I was shaking!

The SPEAKER: Oh, okay.

†Me S W DAVIDS: Ek het daar bo gesit maar ek het nog gedink, wat moet ek nou hier maak? Wat sê ek? Hoe maak ek? En hulle het vir my gehelp deur die paar minute wat ek daar gesit het. *Chief Whip*, baie dankie vir alles wat u vir ons almal gedoen het – in die *caucus*, in die sitting, in ons komitees. In die begin toe ons hier kom en nie verstaan het nie, het *Chief Whip* vir ons aan die hand gevat. Comrade Carol, dankie. Ek wil net vir u sê baie dankie. [Applous.]

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: I sat up there and I thought, what must I do here now? What do I say? What do I do? And they helped me through the few minutes I sat there. Chief Whip, thank you for everything you have done for all of us - in the caucus, in the sitting, in our committees. In the beginning when we came here and did not understand, the Chief Whip took us by the hand. Comrade Carol, thank you. I just want to say to you, thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, member Davids. [Applause.] Thank you, member

Dauids. I now see the DA.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Madam Speaker, let me also take this opportunity to really express my deepest gratitude to the colleagues in the House [Interjection.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Gaan hy ook ... [Onhoorbaar.]

[An HON MEMBER: Is he also going to ... [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: And I think I must say Madam Speaker, that the last five years, I think for me personally, has been a good lesson, but more importantly it clearly demonstrated, even amongst the colleagues in the House, that we are South Africans first before we are members of the political parties who are represented in this House.

And I think of the political maturity that we demonstrated as members of the House, because, to many people's minds, when they see what is happening in the House they think that we are fighting. And each and every colleague on this side, from the ANC, despite many differences in the House, outside these chambers we are colleagues and we are civil to each other.

I was reminded on Monday when we had a debate in Oudtshoorn, I was sitting next to Patricia De Lille. As I walked to the stage, she stood up and then we hugged each other and the person who was moderating [Interjections.] the person who was moderating was actually dumbfounded.

You could see in her face that she was surprised and we both said, look we fight a lot, but our fights are not personal. We are first and foremost South Africans and people of the Western Cape. We do everything we do because we want to see our country and our province succeed.

There were a number of low points and there were a number of high points and I certainly hope that from those low points we have learnt to become better South Africans as members of this House. And I want to take this opportunity to say thank you very much to the Premier who has laid a very solid foundation for this Government of the Western Cape. We are still facing many challenges, but I can certainly say that the achievements that we have made under your leadership are undeniable and visible for everyone to see.

I also want to say to those colleagues from both sides, who are retiring, I want to wish you well and to those who are not coming back but not by choice, I want to wish you very well in your future endeavours and I know that you will continue to serve your province and your country wherever you will be. I think as we wrap up this Fifth Parliament, preparing for the Sixth Parliament, I really want to say thank you very much for all the collegiality that we have shown to each other, irrespective of the colours that we were and parties that we represent, and I think we will continue to make sure that we fight for what is right. We fight to improve the lives of our people in this province because that is exactly what we are here for and I hope to see some of you in the Sixth Parliament, because I will be coming back with almost everyone from this side, who is not leaving by choice and as I said, I wish

everyone here, wherever you will be in future, that you will be able to contribute positively to the betterment of our province and our country. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you Min Madikizela. Hon members, if you may, allow me to address you. This will be my final address in my capacity as the Speaker. So I would just like to share a few reflections with you.

Undoubtedly the most important honour a legislature can bestow on one of its members is to be elected as its Speaker. It was indeed a privilege and an honour to serve the House in this capacity over the past five years and I wish to thank each and every member for their cooperation and support in this regard.

Legislatures must continuously strive to revitalise their core values as institutions to ensure that they stay relevant as key players in our constitutional democracy and should not be immune to reform and rejuvenation in the way they conduct their business. I am very proud to say that our institution does not have to stand back to any comparable legislature in the country and indeed the Commonwealth, despite having the smallest budget of them all.

If I take stock of the performance of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament over the past five years of the way in which it conducted its core functions as required by the Constitution, I think our report card is pretty darn good.

Rigorous oversight and scrutiny of government action, public engagement, robust debates and a thorough consideration of legislation were the order of the day, thanks to the contribution of all our members in whatever capacity they participated in our various processes.

Although not to be the “be all” and “end all” of good governance, the clean audits received by our departments bear testimony to a legislature serious about oversight and accountability. Given the almost impossible timelines imposed upon us often by the NCOP, we played our role in the national sphere to the full and I am immensely proud of our members in this regard.

Furthermore, in all litigation involving the WCPP this term, no adverse findings were made against this institution. That is testimony to solid processes and procedures in the execution of our constitutional mandate, backed up with sound legal and procedural support.

Allow me to share a few key numbers with the members. Over this fifth term of Parliament, WCPP dealt with 1 900 questions and interpellations. There were 33 opportunities for questions to the Premier. 23 pieces of legislation considered and adopted. 1 225 resolutions approved and the 426 hours of debating time in the House. On top of that a total of 1 419 committee activities took place.

While we are busy with the numbers and in a lighter vein, the hon Magaxa was called to order in excess of 100 times with the hon Minister Fritz a close

second and the hon member Davids hot on his heels. Indeed a robust and lively legislature at work. Well done and thank you, members.

We have come to the end of the Fifth Parliament and what a journey it has been. Every single face holds a memory. Memories of lessons learnt, and respect earned. Some of us started off with jet black hair that has over the last five years, turned grey. Others have come in as singletons and grown to become spouses and parents. There are of our members and member Davids alluded to it, who have become students in order to enable us to better serve the people of the Western Cape.

One thing is certain, hon members, we have all become wiser by experience of this Fifth Parliament. There were highs and lows during this term. There were even times that were not pleasant for some, but we are not going to elaborate on that now. We had some laughs and entertainment, deserving of applause.

One such occasion was when Mr Winde broke out in song with Shaggy's '*It wasn't me*'. Yet, across political lines members of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament brought their expertise to committee meetings in order to find and agree on best practices for our province and this reminds me of Nelson Mandela's words,

“A real leader uses every issue, no matter how serious and sensitive, to ensure that at the end of the debate we should emerge stronger and

more united than ever before.”

Allow me to thank the following members without whose support my tenure as Speaker would not have been I dare say, successful. Mr Deputy Speaker Pretorius for your unwavering support and sound procedural knowledge and wisdom, especially during the difficult times. Chief Whip Wiley and the Whippery in general for the smooth functioning of the House as well as to the Leader of Government Business for your support.

To the Premier and her Cabinet for excellent cooperation at all levels, being very mindful of the separation of powers. The Leader of the Official Opposition and his members for their contribution to the fulfilling of the core functions of the institution. To the other parties who are not present here today, their contribution too is valued and noted.

To all our staff without whom we cannot achieve our objective, our stakeholders and service providers, thank you for your hard work, dedication and commitment and last but definitely not least my family and loved ones for their love, support and understanding of the challenges of my chosen career.

To the retiring members and non-returning members, we wish you well with your future endeavours and offer our praises to you for your service to our province and our country. It has been an honour serving alongside you all and your voices will sorely be missed in this House.

Those lucky enough to come back to this institution, I would see you back here in May 2019. Lastly, to every single member, all the best with your campaigning. Fight hard for what you believe in, bearing in mind that our electorate deserves a hard but more importantly a clean campaign. Members are reminded that WCPP has not been dissolved yet and should and could be convened for urgent business, should the need arise. On that note, I would like to invite you to join me for one last lunch in the members' dining room. That concludes the business for the day. The House is adjourned. [Applause.]

The House adjourned at 12:43.