
THURSDAY 25 JULY 2019

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

The House met at 14:15

The Speaker took the Chair.

The SPEAKER: You may be seated. Mr Secretary.

ORDER OF THE DAY

†Die SEKRETARIS: Repliek van die Premier op Debat oor die Premiersrede.

[The SECRETARY: Reply of the Premier to Debate on the Premier's Address.]

Premier's Reply to Debate on State of the Province Address

The SPEAKER: Thank you. †Baie dankie, mnr die Sekretaris. [Thank you, Mr Secretary.] I recognise the Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. It is a privilege to be able to stand here today and reply to the debate and so I would first like to say thank you very much to each and every one of the members of this House that took

time and energy to prepare their speeches, to bring their issues to this House, this Sixth Parliament of the Province of the Western Cape.

Specifically I would like to talk to those members who made their maiden speeches; some of them an absolute maiden speech because it is the first time that they had spoken in this House. Others who had made maiden speeches, who had made speeches before in this House but were here under a different party banner or guise, but every single one of those maiden speeches, I want to congratulate them, and when I was thinking about maiden speeches it made me think about my own maiden speech in this House. I made it from that bench where the hon Gillion is sitting right now 20 years ago, and 20 years ago of a speech made in a House that really talks to democracy in our country, because in this very House I might have come here as part of a Coalition Government. I then went into opposition. I then came back into Government and so in my 20 years it was a process within the Parliament of this Province that really shows that democracy can work. But what I want to say on this point is what I heard in these speeches is how do we work in this House without different responsibilities that the voters have given us and our parties have given us? How do we work in this House with those responsibilities in making sure that we make a difference in the lives of the people in this province that we represent in whichever space we find ourselves? And I really want to say that within the context of how I started off this debate about vision, about responsibility, about values, about safety. That is what a State of the Province Address is about. It is about putting that vision on the table and then utilising this very august House to put other

issues and counter issues on the table so that we can make sure that this House adds value to our citizens.

And so of course what I started off with in my maiden SOPA in this Sixth Parliament was one of a vision, a vision where in a province people can live free from fear; a vision where hard work and dedication can bring us and individuals success in this province - this has to do with economic growth and opportunity - a vision where our children can grow up healthy and are prepared for tomorrow's economy; a vision in which a province, where life has value, no matter where you live or work, you have the option to use safe public transport; you have the option to make decisions and use your own responsibility given to you within the Constitution of our country to make decisions on where you live and where you work and how you move around our province; and also a vision where innovation and a cultural change within an organisation is a space where a province can embrace new ideas and always do the right thing based on those values, based on the responsibility that those values and this opportunity has given us and making sure that whatever we do is aligning to make this province a safer province. So again I would like to say that as we enter the start of the Sixth Parliament in this province, I really do take on board the issues that have been raised by the individual members. I am not going to reply to every single person, but I have picked out issues that perhaps need a reply or issues that maybe need to be fleshed out or even issues where within this framework we take those suggestions and we move forward with them within a government and within a Parliament.

So first of all thank you very much to the Leader of the Opposition in taking part in this debate, in putting the issues on the table and I think the first thing that I would like to address is where he said and he called on me and I quote:

“Bring to order those who seek to discredit potential candidates who may have a history within the liberation movement.”

And what the Hon Leader of the Opposition is talking about is he is talking about the safety component and the responsibility that we all have in making sure that we make this province safer and he is talking about the process now in giving us a new Provincial Police Commissioner.

I want to assure him that what we really need in this province is a dedicated police professional irrespective of his past credentials or where he comes from.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Good, hear-hear!

The PREMIER: A Police Commissioner whose interest it is to break down the divisions that we see at the moment, those factions in the top management of our province that are actually not enabling leadership to give the rest of the police team in this province to play their part, their responsibility, their constitutional mandate in actually making sure this is a safer province, and I can assure you that that is exactly what we will do. [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: But will you tell DA guys to stop; will you tell your DA guys to stop what they are doing then?

The PREMIER: We will make sure that as a competent state it is our responsibility to appoint the best person for the job and I have just heard the interjection from the Leader of the Opposition and I will ask him to raise it whenever one of our DA members make a counter proposal or come in with those kinds of sidelines and I will deal with it, but then I also ask him to take responsibility to do exactly the same thing when we see the opposite happening from another political faction trying to push one of the factions into a leadership process. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Promise?

The PREMIER: We will do that and that is the kind of responsibility that we are asking of members of this House to play their role according to our own values in moving this province forward. I also want to say that... no, but perhaps I think I will leave it there.

I think that it is each of our responsibilities to make sure that we move away emphasising those factional fights because that does not help the individual person in this province whose life is in danger; who is put under pressure when trying to get their kids to school because it is unsafe to do so. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: And I think that that is the first promise coming out of this interaction in this debate, but I want to say the second point as raised, not only in his speech but also in an interjection in the debate, was one of when we spoke about the deployment of the military under the police in making this province safer and we all welcomed it and I heard it from across the House that we welcome this, but of course this is just giving us a little bit of cover, bringing some stability. I think we all understand that.

What happens now? What are we going to be doing differently to create a different environment so that people of this province can be safe and I have committed and you were there and other members were there when we had the summit on safety in this province and I did not stand up on the stage and pick a fight; I did not stand up and talk about resourcing. I did not stand up and talk about any of those things. I stood up and said I welcome this discussion. I welcome this two-day event where we really get together to talk about outcomes in creating a safer environment and I pledged to the Minister that we will make sure that every department in this province plays its role in making a difference in society in this province. I pledged that. But the point that I am getting to, is that then I get asked, “Well, then drop the intergovernmental dispute.”

I am going to say categorically now and I said it to the Minister and I said it to the President. We will not just drop the intergovernmental dispute because

intergovernmental dispute is how a province uses their responsibility in making sure that we will push any boundary that is out there to make sure it is safer for our province... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: But you are not Helen Zille. You are different! You are different to her!

The PREMIER: ...and we will use that dispute and keep it in place until we start to see a difference... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore!

The PREMIER: ... until we start to see a measured difference in the safety of this province... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Yes!

The PREMIER: But when the hon Leader of the Opposition made that interjection I went straight back to him and said to him what would be really nice is an official answer to the numerous letters we have sent along legal lines in line with this intergovernmental dispute; just saying: “We have received it and we accept that we will look at these following...”

We need that response. We ask for that response because that is also a process and without that happening we can have Imbizos and we can have

meetings and we can bring in the military but we will continue in our oversight role of the police in this province to use every single lever that we have possible in making sure that this province is safer.

So that will stay in place until we are satisfied that we are really getting some good traction in partnership with national, provincial and local in making this a safer province.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Would you like me to interject a response?

The SPEAKER: No, hon member Dugmore! You had your opportunity, remember.

The PREMIER: But hon Dugmore in this speech also raised a couple of other things that I must comment on and I want to raise this in the context of a vision with values with responsibility, making sure that we all play our role and here I do really value the position brought to this House of “we are going to do things differently as an Opposition, we want to be constructive”, which is the spirit in which we have started off this term.

I want to say to the hon Leader of the Opposition I value that approach. I value that we also can have meetings with each other to make sure this province is better but then I want to say to the Leader of the Opposition when it comes to the issues raised around the Child Commissioner and the Environmental Commissioner. We must also be responsible in the way we

raise these things in the House and so let us talk about the Child Commissioner first.

The hon Leader of the Opposition knows that this has been a long process of ANC Government and DA Government and in the last term we finalised the Child Commissioner. We actually signed it into law and as the Chair of the Standing Committee said, the Standing Committee now has the responsibility to take the Child Commissioner forward. What the Standing Committee has to do is they have to make sure that they now advertise for nominations. They have to make sure that they publish the names of those members of the public that have made or have been submitted, so that members of the public can actually vet and have a look and comment on those names. They have to make sure that they consider then those nominations and call in selected nominees for interviews.

They will then draw up a shortlist of candidates. The Provincial Parliament will agree on those shortlists of candidates, and the Parliament will then submit that list to me, for which I will then have 14 days in which to nominate the Child Commissioner in this Province. So we cannot stand up and raise issues here as if it has not been looked at because the hon member knows and that is what I am asking about. Please, we do not need to raise these issues in a way that is casting aspersions as if the work has not even been done. So that brings me to the next... [Interjections.]

†UNksz N D NKONDLO: Khawuleza!

[Ms N D NKONDLO: Hurry up!] That is what we want.

The PREMIER: That brings me to the next point.

The SPEAKER: Order hon members, order!

An HON MEMBER: The Committees [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: And the next point which the hon member raised which is the Environmental Commissioner. Now here again, values, why are we bringing it here, and in actual fact if you really wanted to bring the Environmental Commissioner back here it would come via a substantive motion to say that what we should do is relook at it because that is how you bring it back, and you do not bring it back here in comments as if you are making a political rhetoric about an Environmental Commissioner when the hon member knows because he served in a Cabinet in this Government in 2005 to 2009, and I read from a document submitted to Cabinet. This is a document by Minister T Essop on 7 December 2005:

“The Premier, Permission to suspend the establishment of the Office of the Commissioner of the Environment.”

I am not going to read the whole document, but perhaps the key part of this document - well, it could be a last end of the first background which says:

“The Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning as well as the legislative milieu have led to a rethinking of the need of the role and the function of Provincial Commissioner on the Environment.”

And without going into full detail I will give the Leader of the Opposition this document if he would like... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: I have got that. I have got a different view.

The PREMIER: But the legislative changes that have been made since... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: You have a different view.

An HON MEMBER: It is not like the decision of Bambanani.

The PREMIER: We will come to that. The legislative changes that have been made since the Constitution was drawn up... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: You have changed your mind. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The PREMIER: ...and this date when the ANC was in government said the

National Environmental Management Act, the Air Quality Act, the Protected Areas Act, the Biodiversity Act, the Amendment Act to NEMA and the Water Act. All of these... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order hon members! Order hon members! Premier, will you please take your seat. Hon members we understand the temperature from time to time might rise and the excitement, but I would like to request in the most honourable way that we afford the hon Premier to proceed hoping that he did the same to us, on both sides, because we debated and he was listening. So he must now respond. If we do not allow him to we will never know what he thinks of what we may have or may not have said. May we allow him the opportunity please? Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: So these were the reasons that the ANC submitted to Cabinet in 2005. We also know that last year the ANC Youth League took the Premier, the previous Premier to Court on this specific issue as an urgent application. This was dismissed with costs.

We also know that the hon member Dugmore was part of a Committee who unanimously agreed in February this year to let the amendments of the Constitution around this matter stand over to the Sixth Parliament... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Sure.

The PREMIER: So what I am asking is that if this is an issue that I heard from the interjection, there is a rethink on it, well then there are ways to submit these things back to Parliament that we can have proper debate and discussion on them, and that is what I would like to put to the hon Leader of the Opposition that in actual fact I think we agreed to exactly where the environment is, on the environment, and that is that we have sufficient legislation oversight in. We actually have first world legislation in the management of our environment and I think putting another layer really does not help us from achieving the economic goals that we need to achieve, not only in our province but in our country.

We have the highest youth unemployment in the world. We have high unemployment rates. We have slow growth in the economy and what we should be doing is putting our energy into looking at ways where we need to protect the environment but also have ways in which we can speed up economic opportunity. We can speed up an environment that actually gives opportunity to our people to open businesses, to create jobs to find jobs and that is what we need to be looking at how we create that balance. So, I really look forward to this next five years in how we utilise this space; not to bring these kinds of issues but let us put real substantive stuff on the table that really takes us to another level in this province. We need to use those opportunities.

Then I would like to say in closing on the Leader of the Opposition that we know that if we have a look at the agreement that we have already as the

Leader of the Opposition and the Premier, I think if we have a look at what the Speaker has put in place, which is a new iteration of how Parliament operates with its leadership, political leadership where we have quarterly meetings, where we come together where we really start to put these issues on the table, so that we can then come to this House and have proper debates because it was one the issues that the hon Leader of the Opposition and I spoke about. We also need to make sure that the citizens of this province can see value coming out of this House and so on that point I really once again would like to say to him thank you very much for the attitude that he has brought and we could see it in much of the debate that was happening in this first debate happening in this sixth Parliament. I really look forward to seeing how these things come about so on that point and the last issue that was raised by the Leader of the Opposition was one of how do we use, and this was in the discussion around land, around housing, the big debate that is happening at the moment specifically in land availability in inner-cities or in our towns. Of course I will commit now to this House that where the Province is involved and along with the Minister responsible that we will commit to unlocking wherever we can the blockages at the moment and push as hard as we can, for instance Tafelberg or Helen Bowden and so these spaces that are blocked up, we will really push to it. But what I also want to do and say, the hon Leader of the Opposition raised an issue in the House which was one of why are we not using our school properties to build on the periphery housing opportunities for our teachers. It creates a safe environment. It makes really good sense, and I want to say to him thank you for bringing that to this House. I want to commit to him and with him to say I

really, really want to work together on how we find one of these to work. It is not new. Professor Edgar Pieterse has spent a lot of time talking about this. In actual fact he had a presentation that he made to our Bosberaad. We have actually a few years ago tried this and the big blockage that we found was school governing bodies because it is actually school governing bodies that have to play a big role in making sure that we enable this. I had a discussion with the Minister of Education and she is also in absolute agreement that if we can find a way that we can work together on this as long as it does not detract from, you know, we do not want to hand over too much space that you have no more space for sporting activities or after school activities. If we can find sufficient education and after-school space and use the rest for development, we will work together so my challenge now to the Leader of the Opposition is can I ask you to find, let us find one or two and I will hand that to you, so let us find one or two, bring it to us and let us put a team together that says let us go and find a way to actually make this happen. Let us go in the next year or two, let us go and find a way that we can actually get exactly what he has sat on the table and happening. Let us make it happen and I would like to do that together with the Leader of the Opposition. Obviously we have to work out the nuts and bolts of how then Opposition holds us to account in the delivery thereof but let us find a way in actually making that work.

Then moving on in the debate and the leader of the EFF in the House, the hon member Xego, thank you very much for your contribution and really what I want to highlight out of your contribution is the issue that you raised around

independent power producers versus Eskom. Obviously in your policy and the way you see the world, you see and the way you put it was that “independent power producers is white monopoly capital as opposed to Eskom.” I want to say to you, sir, that we have a major problem in our country, a really big, big problem and if we have to analyse the biggest problem right now I would say it is Eskom; and the reason I say it is Eskom is because the rating agencies, the cost of our debt, the ability for a medium and long-term future in our economy, the difference between total collapse of our country and almost a 100% surety of absolute flight of any capital and absolute zero option of any investment, is if Eskom falls over and fails. If Eskom falls over that we move to constant blackouts and even a major blackout across our country for months, we are finished as a country. We are finished. It will be anarchy. It will be horrendous and it will take us 25 years to get out of that. So quite frankly I will state it right now that we cannot afford for Eskom to fail. We cannot afford it in this province and our country cannot afford it in this province, but we must understand that we have to find some alternatives.

Members of this House raised issues about our constitutional mandate and what we can do and what we cannot do. We cannot just accept that. We have to push boundaries further than we have any time ever before and what I am saying in this province is we have to build resilience and that is where the independent power producers come in, and when we talk about independent power producers the ideal independent power producer is a young black entrepreneur building a business and creating jobs and putting power into our

grid and that is way better than Eskom. That is way better than these CEOs have managed to do for us in South Africa over the last ten years.

In the last ten years, 12 CEOs, six Board Chairs, and debt and risk which is out of control. We have just bailed out Eskom once again, another R59 billion, and guess what, do you know where that R59 billion comes from?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: The poor.

The PREMIER: We did not borrow it. It comes from the poor.

An HON MEMBER: And services.

The PREMIER: Because we have to find it within our own budgets across South Africa; not just this province, every province in South Africa and National Government are cutting that money out of service delivery to the poor and giving it to Eskom to these guys, to say “here is some more money”. We almost do not know how to learn our lesson, so quite frankly, doing that, we have to do it, because as I said we cannot afford for Eskom to fail but at the same time we better be making sure that we are resilient and that is why we need independent power producers. We need to make sure that we are creating an opportunity for the future.

That is our responsibility, along with our values, we create those opportunities of investment, of opportunities for entrepreneurs so that we

become resilient and we can actually change the lives of people in our province. So I disagree with you, sir, I disagree with you. We have to enable those entrepreneurs to give us that resilience and again we have to make sure that we move to a different space so that bailouts are not costing us classrooms or teachers or healthcare, HIV/AIDS, medicines, or chronic medicines or hip operations or any other kind of space in which this Government creates an enabling environment and opportunities. We have to make sure that we push whatever boundary we can and that is why we are in Court on the IPPs, that is why we have to make sure that we succeed because that will build the resilience and hope for our young people moving into the future.

Then the issue was raised around the agricultural audits in this province. For the third year now we will not be able to have a clean audit in Agriculture and that is put squarely on my desk and I take full responsibility for that because I am the one that made the decision to say we will go to Court on this issue.

Now let us talk about that Agricultural audit and what it actually means, and why in my speech I actually started to speak about the Auditor-General which is something that people generally looking at us saying: “Wow, what on earth is he doing taking on the Auditor-General? Is he mad? Is this crazy?” But let us talk about Agriculture. If we talk about Agriculture, Agriculture in 2010/11, clean audit; in 2012/13, clean audit.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Exactly the point!

The PREMIER: In 2013/14, clean audit; in 2014/15, clean audit and in 2015/16, clean audit - a really proud track record of a department that works damn hard to make sure that they do things properly in the best interest of the people. [Interjections.]

Over and above that they have received the following awards from the South African Institute for Government Auditors: in 2011 the Agriculture Department received the highest score in the Annual Public Sector Reporting Awards. In 2011 it was the overall winner for Provincial and National Departments. In 2012 the Department received both the highest score and the overall winning accolade again. In 2015 it received recognition for the highest score and the most consistent highest scores for 2013, 2014 and 2015, but what happened in Agriculture is the Auditor-General and National Treasury started looking at how to change the rules and they are changing the rules in the interest of curbing corruption. But what happens in provinces where when you get to that space we do not have an Estina Dairy that we have to create a space in which we must stop transfers. We do not have that. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes, that is what we are saying.

The PREMIER: We do not have that and so this, I will tell you straight this is the risk. If we win this Court case what is that going to mean... [Interjection.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: If you win. That is a big “if”!

The PREMIER: Ja sure, that is why we take it to the Courts... [Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: Yes.

The PREMIER: ...and we abide with the outcome of the Courts but if we win this Court case what is it going to mean for the Estina Dairy? [Interjection.] But what we must say is that at the moment what they are asking us to do is to put out to tender how we operate between a body like Hortgro; a body like Hortgro which receives its funding from SARS. It is a statutory body that for every carton of fruit that we export to the rest of the world a percentage goes to this organisation to do what? To make sure we are globally competitive, to make sure we are growing that sector and to make sure that we can create more jobs and what this process is going to do, it is going to force us to say, if we lose, “Sorry, we cannot partner with you anymore.” It is true.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Ja, I do not agree.

The PREMIER: It is true, and what I will say to this House that yesterday again we met with the Auditor-General and we have agreed that within the next 100 days we will have this debate with the Auditor-General with National Treasury with the National Auditor-General and ourselves, and I will actually see if I can bring in the Gauteng Province as well into this discussion, because it is in the interest of South Africa, our competitiveness

and jobs because I will also make a last commitment while talking about this point, that there is no ways that we will compromise on a brand of clean effective and efficient government. We are and we have attained for years, the best outcome in South Africa every single year on our outcomes, so we will not compromise on that. [Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: I am sure the ANC... [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: But we have to find ways in which this creep into our ability to deliver; it must change. Then the last point that I want to raise around this and around clean governance is the point that I raised in the debate about - at some stage we have to make decisions that we are just going to do things, irrespective of the consequences. If we go through processes for five years i.e. the Brandvlei Dam and we do not get anywhere and we know that this is going to unlock 5000 hectares for emerging black farmers to become commercial farmers to play a role, as long as Hortgro can still play their role in keeping us competitive globally, we spoke about that stuck in the mud, that clogged up space. We want clean but we do not want clogged, but I must say that I raised this issue with the President. I raised this issue last week in this House, and I want to say to the National Department of Water Affairs, thank you very much... [Interjection.]

Mr M XEGO: Thank you. Are you going to start now?

The PREMIER: ...because the announcement was made that this project is

now going to start, they will wait for the rainy season to end and we will start this project by November this year. [Interjections.] Thank you very much, that is really welcomed. Now that is exactly what we need to be doing. We need to be raising these issues. Let us unblock, let us unclog. We want to be clean, but we want to be unclogged and unblocked and hopefully we can get this delivered very quickly and it can make a major difference in the economy and for opportunities for people in our province. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Thank you [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, I want to move to the hon member Herron. The hon member Herron says that we are powerless to deal with rail; we are powerless to deal with land and we are powerless to deal with crime. Speaker, I do not accept that. [Interjection.]

Mr B N HERRON: I said you said we are powerless.

The PREMIER: I do not accept that. As Government we need to be constantly looking for opportunities and using our influence to make life better for our people. My responsibility is to push the boundaries to ensure that we have better service delivery. My responsibility, this Government's responsibility is to find ways in whichever way we need to do it, influence, push, do whatever we need to do so that we make the real difference and so we are not powerless to do that. We will claim as much space as we can. We will make use of this Parliament to make life better. That is our responsibility but I

want to say to the hon member Herron that he has vast experience in rail, in transport, in land, and as I have said to the hon Leader of the Opposition, I am really open to ideas on how we can change these things, on how we can make this province a better space and I will be open and my door is open on saying how do we actually change this, what should we be doing differently? Bring those issues to the table and then of course your responsibility would be then in your job, to keep us accountable and make sure that we are following through with these processes. [Interjections.]

Speaker, I want to move on to the hon member Sayed. He raised some very interesting issues and doing his job, his oversight; the first one that he raised was the number of learners not placed in school and of course this is a very, very serious issue. It is an issue that we as Government take very, very seriously and we know it is our responsibility to make sure that we fix these problems as he has raised, and I want to say to him again, absolutely open door. When we pick these things up let us deal with them immediately because it is unacceptable. Our responsibility within the vision of this Province is to make sure we create that opportunity for our young people so that they have the possibility of a life that they deserve, a life that they wish for and can see.

So in this point I want to say that he raised an issue around learners not in school, I have engaged with the Minister and engaged with the Department and yes, I share his concern about learners not in school and as we stand today there are now 113 unplaced learners. These unplaced learners, at the

moment they are busy in the process of placing them. The issues around those unplaced learners are late applications and recent relocations and of course in his space in the Standing Committee must interact but also I think we must not wait or delay for Standing Committee interactions.

When you find someone in the street unplaced, let us speak about it immediately, let us get that learner into a school as quickly as we can for full opportunity, but I want to say that we spoke about within our value statement within this opportunity society that it is not only the Government that has that responsibility. There is also responsibility for parents to make sure that their kids are in school and I would really like us as members of this Parliament to work together in making sure that we get our young people into the spaces so that they have the opportunities of getting a good education, of making sure that they themselves have opportunities for the future. So let us also agree that we, wherever we are, when we see someone in the street not at school we actually stop and we actually deal with that issue. It is all of our responsibility to make sure because it is critical, it is critical for the issue around safety because it is those very children that end up getting hooked into gangs; that end up getting hooked into all the wrong sides of society and they end up in our jails and that is not what we want. And so, at the same time we will make sure that whatever you bring to us we will try to place as quickly as possible because it is in the best interests of those young people.

The next issue that I want to raise with you is the alcohol in schools and first of all I want to say to you that I want to have a look at how many schools

thus far have used this new piece of legislation because of course remember this legislation is an enabling piece of legislation. It is where a province looks at requests that come from schools and says what are we going to do about these requests and we create that enabling environment. But at the same time when we talk about values and we talk about responsibility there is a responsibility now given to a school, to a school governing body to make a decision; to look at their policies and so far only two schools, since the legislation has come into being, only two schools have applied, to apply for a licence in order for them - by their governing body - to utilise their facility to raise funds so that they can use those funds to help learners that perhaps cannot afford whatever they need to afford in attending that school; to perhaps add to the value add of that school and of course that is a decision that that school and that governing body can take. And again, I ask the hon member [Interjection.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Hierso kom dit!

[An HON MEMBER: Here it comes!]

The PREMIER: ...to also show me any school that sells alcohol to anybody on their premises without following the process of going through their governing body and doing it when there are school learners on the property and doing it where it is inside the school, and not as a mechanism on a weekend of perhaps renting out their facility for a wedding or whatever they are doing in that facility in order to raise extra money to add to the value-add of education in this province; that is why that component was put in the

legislation, and let us not play politics with that but if you find a serious transgression, bring it to us, take it to the police, take it to the licensing authority and let us stop it. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: The Liquor Board will still [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: We will remove that right from that school. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The PREMIER: But we are giving an opportunity for a decision and if you do not like the ability of a school to have liquor on that premises, make sure that that governing body writes in their policy that this will not happen, we will not give that allocation, we will not allow any fundraising opportunity to happen on this property. [Interjections - speaking simultaneously]

An HON MEMBER: ...running way from responsibility...

The SPEAKER: Order hon members! Order hon members!

The PREMIER: But, Speaker, again... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order hon members, may I please get an attention of the hon members here. I have requested that we allow the Premier to respond. Thanks hon Premier, you may please proceed.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. It seems quite difficult to understand but it is there and we need to use it but let us actually ask the question why, why does the Opposition bring up this piece of legislation time and time again? It is not about alcohol [Interjections.]

Mr P MARRAN: What is it about then?

The PREMIER: It is not about alcohol. [Interjections.] It is about the piece of legislation that says we will have monitoring and evaluation in our schools. [Interjections.] That is actually why this Opposition is bringing that up and the question I ask myself is, why would an Opposition want to even bring that up? Surely we want responsibility in our schools. Surely we want monitoring and evaluation in our schools. Surely we want to make our schools the best performing spaces for opportunity, for our young people in this country on this continent or on this planet. We are rated in whatever rating you can think of, whether it is OECD, World Economic Forum, whoever it is, our education system is rated of the worst in the world.

We have to make sure that South African education systems start playing around the space where Rwanda is playing or even higher up the rankings and how do you do that? You measure. If you cannot measure, you cannot manage and that is the real reason why the unions and the ANC do not like that piece of legislation ... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: And so they want to fluff it around with responsibility allocated to them in this legislation to governing bodies on whether they can actually hire out their properties for fundraising to add value to their schools, and so again I commit to the hon member that we deal with these issues decisively but also let us also think properly before we bring fluff to this Parliament. [Interjections.]

Mr M K SAYED: Shifting your responsibility.

Ms N D NKONDLO: You fluff when you do not agree with it.

The PREMIER: Then I want to speak again on the position around how do we bring issues to this Parliament that we take them seriously, that it does not matter who you are in this Parliament you must feel free to represent your voters. Come with a great idea, just like the hon Leader of the Opposition brought to us. Why are we not building housing for teachers on extra land around our schools? Let us do that.

The hon member Mitchell brought an idea to this Parliament in this debate. The idea was why do we not create a depot so that when we have disasters we can actually deliver goods whether they be - whatever they be, water in a drought or clothing in a fire. Why do we not create a depot for disaster that we do not take collected goods from the public because that is one thing that

the public in our country and in our province are really amazing at. When there is a disaster people give of themselves unbelievably to help their fellow citizens in getting out of whatever that disaster is. As we stand here right now there are many people in the city and around the city in this province who are in a difficult predicament because they have been flooded out.

They have got wet clothing. They have maybe lost the roof of their home; whatever has happened - disaster. Now what happens is we create accounts. We go and look for help etcetera, etcetera. Imagine if that depot was in place and we could deliver from that depot within hours. So the hon member Mitchell I think that is an excellent idea because what you do is you actually, and we knew in the Knysna fires, that we collected way too much and the excess actually starts to build stock so that you deliver immediately and as you raise and as you bring in donated goods you then replenish that stock so you are immediately reactive to that disaster.

I think it is an outstanding idea and exactly the same position as I have with the hon member Dugmore, I think let us take that idea and I speak to the Minister responsible for disaster management and of course the Minister of Public Works, because between the two of them we need to go and find a facility, and I think it is an outstanding idea. Let us go and find that facility. Let us make it available as soon as we can so that we can start to be much more responsive in our reactions.

Members, I am almost done, I want to end off with the hon Chief Whip of the

Opposition, the hon member Lekker and the first thing I want to say to her is again our vision, our values, and when I say our vision and our values it is obviously us as Government, and we really want to work with values as a Government. We would love the Parliament and the members of this Parliament to also have these values because we need to make sure that across society we start to work on values as society.

Safety and crime is a big issue for us in this province and if you really think about safety and you look at the balance between values and safety when your values start to diminish - that is when your crime starts to increase and if we can start to change values in society, get society to take on different responsibilities and integrity etcetera in their values, we start to change things, and I put that challenge to the hon member and I say that because the hon member reacts to the State of the Province Address in the public domain. She wrote an article and I hope she stands by the words that she wrote in her article with the value set with integrity. She wrote an article and put it out in the public domain, but then she comes into Parliament, in actual fact this space where she has protection, she does not have protection with what she wrote outside the House. She actually has protection to say what she wants to say inside the House. I know it very well.

When I started off in that bench as I started off this speech, I actually laid a charge with the Public Protector around possible criminal activity where I had half of the information. I laid the charge at the police station and that Minister who sat in these benches at that stage actually went to jail and so in

this House we need to be able to use our privilege but we also must have integrity when we put things outside, to put things inside, and we should have the guts to stand here and say it here as well. We cannot have what we call “cookie-cutter allegations”. [Interjections.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: I know the investigator. We will give you access to that document.

The PREMIER: Cookie-cutter allegations, so on 25 February 2013, on 25 February 2013 there was a whole lot of charges laid and a whole lot of fanfare and the headline read: “Sedition leading to the death of a child.” Basically saying that what you have been doing has actually caused the death of a child and sedition, a very serious charge. The interesting thing is the charge says and was laid against the hon Theuns Botha and the headline in the newspaper when you go and Google it, have a look at the front page of that newspaper, “Theuns Botha charged with sedition”, wada-wada-wada. On 25 February 2013, this is what she writes about but she does not use that charge. She does not use that headline. She uses 22 February 2019, earlier this year, where the same charges were laid, but it was interesting they just removed Theuns Botha’s name and then put Alan Winde’s name. Huh?

An HON MEMBER: Jo!

The PREMIER: That is not integrity. That cannot be integrity. [Interjection.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: Wait, just relax and you will see [Inaudible.]
[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: It cannot be. So I ask you to make sure that when you make these kind of claims that you back them up and we all - and I say that to everyone in this House because in this House we are all hon members and we need to make sure that we treat each other honourably, but where we have evidence or where we think we have sufficient evidence we lay charges at the police station, we go to the Public Protector and we use this House as a mechanism because you have protection in this House to raise these issues.
[Interjection.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: That is why you must be patient with the process. It is going to happen and then you will see.

The PREMIER: Let us make this Parliament work properly. Let us make this Parliament work with integrity and with values. Let us make this Parliament work in the interest of the people of this province which in actual fact in the discussions with the Leader of the Opposition is exactly what his vision was and I saw it, I saw it in action in the debate in this House. When someone was making their maiden speech and attacking - in opposition attacking, the Leader of the Opposition actually stood up, calmed everything down, laid it out in a line, we do not do that here. That is the kind of Parliament that we want in this Sixth Parliament. Hold each other to account, absolutely strong oversight and making sure we make a difference.

So Speaker, in conclusion, my vision for this province for the next five years is about the three points of the triangle: values, responsibility and safety. We need to make sure as a government that we live our values, build a culture based on these values; continue our relentless work towards building a capable state on this foundation. The responsibility we take to continue delivering opportunities to our people and we will expect them to take responsibility in improving their own lives with a culture of accountability, playing their part, and safety. We will make this province safer under the rule of law. We will do this however and in whichever way we can, but Speaker, those three values expressed as an idea are just ideas until we give them human form, until we make them real for our people who we serve so let us do that for a moment and Speaker let us imagine a woman somewhere in our province who is currently pregnant. My vision for a Western Cape is where she will receive excellent antenatal care. She does this because we recognise the first 1000 days of a child's life from conception to the child's second birthday as a key to health and development.

This excellence of delivery will be made possible by our capable state underpinned by these values. Brought to life, this means that when she needs access to the care that she did access; that it is accessed easily and that she is treated with respect and with dignity.

Speaker, my vision or our vision as this Government is that when that baby is born that her mother is responsible and takes advantage of all of the healthcare opportunities provided by this Government for her, that her child

is immunised, that her child is given every opportunity to be a healthy child. My vision, Speaker, is that then when this child is old enough that her mother will be the responsible person that makes sure that they use the opportunities provided that enrolled her in an ECD Centre, that enrolled her then following on in a school; that use every opportunity given to her by this Government as she grows up. We also know that that mother in that vision, after dropping her child at the Early Child Development Centre, can then make use of a transport voucher that this Government gives her because she is going to an interview for a job. The opportunity created for her that she is mobile, that she can get there, that she gets to an interview, that she uses the opportunities that were given to her when she was educated to actually get that job and that by using that job she then also creates the environment with her responsibility given to her, to give that child of hers the best life that that child could possibly have.

Speaker, we say this because we need to make sure that this Government delivers on this vision with these values, creates these opportunities that the society out there, the people who we serve utilise those opportunities and that this province gets better and better day by day and Speaker, that is the vision that we all need to make sure that we lead towards, that we play, each of us, our individual roles in making sure that the Constitutional mandate that we were given that when we stood here and put our hands up and swore allegiance to our Constitution that we do that with the utmost integrity, with a value-system that we all hold dear in the best interests of making this province the best province that we possibly can. I thank you. [Applause.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The SPEAKER: Order hon members. Thank you, hon Premier. [Interjection.]

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Wat van Afrikaans? Wat van selfbeskikking? Wat van federalisme? [Tussenwerpsels.]

[Mr P J MARAIS: What about Afrikaans? What about self-determination? What about federalism? [Interjections.]]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Marais. Hon members, order! [Interjections.]

Order, hon members! That concludes the Premier's reply to the debate. I am going to request the hon members to remain standing for the duration of the procession and that concludes the debate.

The House is adjourned.

The House adjourns at 15:13.