



# LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE

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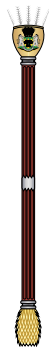
BUDGET  
SPEECH

2024/25





Hon. Makoma Makhurupetje  
SPEAKER



**LIMPOPO**  
**LEGISLATURE**

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# **BUDGET SPEECH**

# 2024/25

15 AUGUST 2024

## Limpopo Legislature Budget Speech Delivered by the Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Hon. Makhurupetje, to the Seventh Limpopo Legislature at Lebowakgomo Chamber.

15 August 2024

The Presiding Officer, Hon Deputy Speaker,  
Premier of the Limpopo Province, Hon. Dr Phophi Ramathuba,  
Members of the Executive Council,  
Chief Whip of the House, Hon. Essob Mmanoko Mokgonyana,  
Leader of Government Business, Hon, Rodgers Basikopo Makamu,  
Leaders of the Opposition Parties,  
Chairperson of Chairpersons, Hon. Thabo Mokone  
Chairperson of the Oversight Mechanism, Hon. Kennedy Tshivhase,  
Honourable Members of this House,  
Acting Secretary to the Limpopo Legislature, Dr Isaac Nkuna,  
Senior Management and Officials of the Limpopo Legislature,  
Distinguished Guests,  
The people of Limpopo who are following the proceedings on social media  
platforms,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Receive my warm greetings.

***Ke a le dumediša.*** Ndi Matsheloni. Avuxeni. Lotshani.



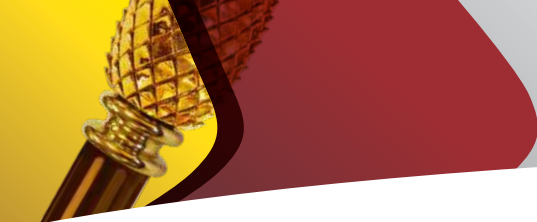
We table the 2024/25 Budget Speech of the Limpopo Legislature after successful provincial and national elections, which were held on the 29th of May 2024. This was a critical milestone in our democracy, and our province has done well in those elections. The people of Limpopo have exercised their rights to vote in a free and fair elections. They have exercised their democratic right to elect the people who should represent their interests in this House.

The outcome of the elections saw the African National Congress having the majority representation in this House. This is a clear indication that the people of Limpopo have overwhelmingly renewed the mandate of the ANC to govern and oversee the affairs of the province on their behalf.

For the first time in the history of our province, we are led by a woman Premier: Hon. Dr. Phophi Ramathuba. This is history in the making and a great progressive move in addressing gender inequalities. It is indeed a great progress for women emancipation in our lifetime. As the Limpopo Legislature, we assure the Premier full support during the 7th administration, without compromising our constitutional mandate.

### **Presiding Officer,**

The 2024/25 Budget Speech is delivered as we celebrate the National Women's Month. As the province, we have celebrated a very successful women's month event at Thononda, Vhembe District with the Premier of Limpopo. We have commemorated the contribution of great women leaders like Mme Lydia Komape-Ngwenya, Charlotte Maxeke and others who contributed immensely to our democracy. In their spirit, they are happy that Limpopo province is led by women.



The people of Limpopo continue to celebrate three decades of our democracy, the democracy that has brought new hope cherished by non-racial, non-sexist, and democratic elections held since 1994. In his Opening of Parliament Address (in July 2024), the President of the country, His Excellency Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa alluded to the challenges still facing our country even as we celebrate 30 years of democracy:


*“Despite the achievements of 30 years of democracy, and the work undertaken over the last five years to rebuild our economy and our society, millions of South Africans remain poor, unemployed and live in a highly unequal society”.*

The Premier of Limpopo Province, Honourable Dr Phophi Ramathuba further illuminated on this in her Official Opening by committing the province to address these challenges:

*“As we run the gauntlet of the ensuing five years, we are on course with a cogent plan to achieve more rapid, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth and job creation; to reduce poverty and tackle the high cost of living; to build a capable, ethical and developmental state. These three priorities are the mainstays of the democratic administration. Limpopo stands ready to ensure that these priorities are converted into actions that will inform our endeavor to create a better life for all”.*

### **Honourable Members,**

In the light of the challenges still facing our society 30 years after democracy, the role of Legislatures in changing the lives of the people remain unavoidable. This role is clearly articulated in the words of former President Nelson Mandela when delivering a moving speech during the final sitting of the first democratically elected parliament on the 26th of March 1999, when he alluded that:



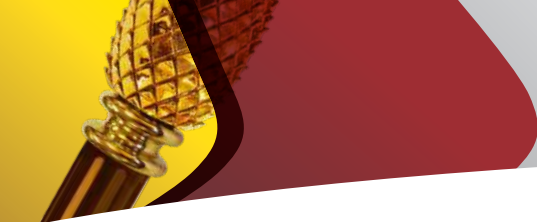
*“It is in the legislatures that instruments have been fashioned to create a better life for all. It is here that oversight of government has been exercised. It is here that our society in all its formations has had an opportunity to influence policy and its implementation. In brief, we have laid the foundation for a better life. Things that were unimaginable a few years ago have become everyday reality. And of this, we must be proud”*

The Limpopo Legislature amplifies this responsibility by stating that we remain *a vanguard of people’s aspirations and interests towards a democratic, non-sexist, non-racial, united and a prosperous society.*

Indeed, it is common knowledge that the hopes and aspirations of the people who voted lie in the Legislature as evident from the projects and programmes achieved in the 6th term through robust oversight, effective public participation and laws enacted to address societal challenges.

The Legislature is constitutionally expected to hold the executive accountable on behalf of the people who voted for us. In the theory of principal-agent relationship which defines the relationship between the Legislature and the citizens, it is clearly stated as *“one authorizes the other”* to perform actions on their behalf. This implies that the Principals (citizens) provide instructions to the agent (the Legislature) to act on their behalf. An agent’s duties include acting in the principal’s best interests and adhering to legal regulations or social contract agreed upon during the elections.

Comparatively speaking, the legislature stands in a unique position in relation to other structures and entities in society. The powers bestowed on it to exercise law making, oversight and public participation should be held sacred by all of us in this House as we continue to represent our various constituencies in a more diligence and faithful manner.



Drawing from the work done in the 6th Administration, the Limpopo Legislature has relentlessly continued with its mission of oversight without failure. Even as the term was drawing towards an end, Committees of the Legislature actively engaged in their responsibilities. In the year under review, the Legislature successfully exercises oversight over the executive authority in the province, by scrutinizing the budget and performance plans of the Departments and entities. The Legislature has also concluded a series of engagements with the Executive and conducted oversight visits to several projects across the province.

Standing on the shoulders of giants and icons like former President Nelson Mandela, and looking back at what has been done before us, we can proudly speak like Nelson Mandela when he said: *“Look at the work of the committees that have scrutinized legislation and improved it, posed difficult questions to the executive and given the public insight and oversight of government as never before”*.

This is the foundation on which the 7th Legislature must build and improve on it to ensure a better life for the people. There is no better time or historical epoch than this, to work towards change that will yield meaningful results to the citizen of Limpopo.

In his speech, Dr Martin Luther King Junior pointed out that even in the midst of challenges facing black people in the American society of his time, if given a chance by God to choose as to where and when to be alive, he would have chosen the 20th Century, which was riddled with challenges and distress. In his own words, he remarked that *“I would even come up to the early thirties and see a man grappling with the problems of the bankruptcy of his nation. And come with an eloquent cry that we have nothing to fear but fear itself. But I wouldn’t stop there. Strangely enough, I would turn to the Almighty, and say, If you allow me to live just a few years in the second half of the 20th century, I will be happy”*.



Strange indeed, however this was so because he understood that he was not called to a life of comfort, but to serve and make a difference in the lives of others in his society rather than to be consumed or dismayed by the developments and bleakness of the time. The same can be said of us Honourable Members, at the dawn of this 7th Administration, that we should not be consumed by side issues, but through oversight, we must face, grapple and embrace the challenges that are still facing our society 30 years after democracy. The Legislature has therefore a special calling to make the lives of the citizenry better.

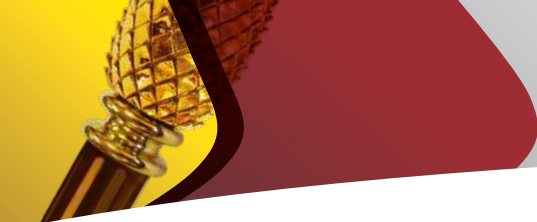
### **Honourable members,**

In striving to make the lives of people better, it is important that the Legislature prioritizes service delivery issues when **exercising oversight** over the Executive. Informed by this imperative, it is our undertaking as Legislature that priority projects and programmes that drives the economy of the province will be monitored to ensure that the people's lives are changed for the better.

Matters of deliberation in Committee meetings must be meaningful and aimed at creating better life for all rather than engagements which may be lacking the necessary drive to transform our society and communities. The priority areas mentioned in the various budget Speeches by Departments in this House will inform our oversight priorities and strategies as we engage in focused oversight aimed at improving people's lives.

Looking ahead, our committees will intensify oversight efforts in the coming year, with a specific focus on key projects that are poised to catalyze a significant turnaround in the province's economy. In line with the commitment to the priority of building a capable, ethical development state, the Legislature will continue to play its oversight role to ensure that the state-owned entities deliver on their mandates, be it developmental or revenue generation.





Honourable Members, **Public Participation** continues to organize relevant stakeholders from different sectors through Public Hearings, enabling them to make input on different bills. In intensifying public participation, the committees of the legislature will continue to mobilize different sectors of society to Sectoral Parliaments, spearheaded by the Standing Committee on Quality of life, Status of Women, Youth and People with Disability.


In maximizing participation in the **lawmaking process**, public hearings will be conducted across the lengths and breadths of our province, targeting relevant stakeholders to improve the quality of inputs, and informing the public to partake in the proposed lawmaking processes.

It is also worth noting that the Legislature has resuscitated critical bills such as the Appropriation Bill that lapsed during the end of the 6th Administration to ensure that Departments have access to their budget so that they can deliver services to our people without any fiscal constraints.

The Petition process further provides intervention and resolves challenges facing communities. It has inspired hope and confidence in our citizens by intervening and handling petitions. The petitions received and processed have unblocked so many abandoned and unfinished projects. It enables individual and community issues to be considered and heard, and many of the issues get resolved amicably by departments and other entities involved.

### **Honourable Members,**

In our engagement as a Legislature with the Auditor-General, it has emerged that the impact of the work/projects/programmes of the Departments in the lives of communities and ordinary people is becoming important and a key area of focus by the Auditor-General. As an oversight institution, we will collaborate with the AG through our committees to ensure that this important aspect is achieved when exercising oversight.



Noting that the 7th Administration has just commenced, capacity building remains one of our key priorities. The goal is to ascertain that Members of the Legislature are well equipped to ensure that they performed their responsibilities effectively. The Legislature has arranged some capacity building programmes to train Honourable Members in relation to basic skills that are essential for their work as Members. The first training was held from the 1st to 4th of July 2024. It covered issues related to the application of the rules, separation of powers, roles and responsibilities within the Legislature and others.

The second induction will take place during the first week of September 2024. The capacity building initiatives of Members will continue until Members are well equipped to effectively carry out their functions and responsibilities as Members of the 7th Administration.

### **Honourable Members,**

As we table this budget for consideration by this august House, let us not forget that we still have an obligation to fulfill our responsibility of ensuring that the Strategic Plans for the 7th Administration are prepared and tabled after 6 months of the election as per the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act and Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act.

### **Honourable Members,**

It is a well-known fact that the seats in the Limpopo Legislature have increased from 49 to 64 as per the IEC determination, which was informed by the population dynamics of the province over the years. This is a positive development; indeed, however it has brought pressure to the existing budget provision, which is not sufficient to cover the needs and demands of a developing institution. The following are some of budget pressures facing the Limpopo Legislature which will need redress from the Limpopo Provincial Treasury:

- Salaries for additional Members.
- Vehicles to cater for additional number of Members.
- Accommodation for Members.
- Fleet repairs and maintenance.
- Committees work and support.
- NCOP office rental.
- Security services.

### Honourable Members,

Having outlined some of the existing gaps and pressures, let me state that the total budget allocation for Limpopo Legislature in the 2024-25 financial year is **R549.516 million** of the equitable share.

	Medium term estimates		
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	R'000	R'000	R'000
<b>Treasury funding</b> Equitable share	549 516	542 082	626 182
<b>Total receipts:</b> <b>Treasury funding</b>	549 516	542 082	626 182

The budget as presented, covers employee costs, goods and services, capital expenditure as well as support to political parties. The budget is distributed across the three main programmes of the Legislature as follows:

### **Programme 1: Administration**

This programme has been allocated **R173.208 million** in the 2024/25 financial year in order to provide strategic leadership and administrative support to the entire Legislature. Most of the infrastructure and ICT costs will be incurred from this programme.

### **Programme 2: Facilities for Members and Political Party Support**

Facilities for Members and Political Parties has been allocated **R244.205 million** in the 2024/25 financial year to provide compensation of Members and support to political parties.

### **Programme 3: Parliamentary Services**

Parliamentary Services has been allocated a total of **R132.103 million** in the 2024/2025 financial year to provide services related to oversight, public participation and law-making.

As I conclude, let me express my appreciation to the Honourable Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba for her leadership, the House for entrusting me with this responsibility, Members of the Legislature and staff of the Legislature for their unwavering support and commitment in this important task of serving the people of Limpopo.

**Honourable Members**, it is my honour and privilege to table the Limpopo Legislature 2024/25 Budget Vote to this House.

Thank You!

Ndo Livhuwa

Kea Leboga

Na Khensa

Baie Dankie



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