In the wake of an armed robbery at Lebowakgomo Hospital, the Public Servants Association (PSA) has called for strict enforcement of security at all Limpopo hospitals, particularly the doctors' residences, which seem to be a target for criminals.

"The incident at the Hospital follows shortly after an incident where doctors were shot at Letaba Hospital. Staff of two hospitals in the province were attacked in a matter of days. This calls for urgent safety measures to be put in place in all hospitals resorting under the Limpopo Department of Health," said PSA General Manager, Ivan Fredericks.

"The PSA acknowledges an indication by the Limpopo MEC of Health that a discussion with the State Security Agency is underway and will involve both the Ministers of Health and Police. However, considering the approaching festive season that is known for increased criminal activities, there is an urgent need to respond to the immediate need while a permanent solution is sought," said Mr Fredericks.

The PSA indicated that speculation regarding the involvement of a syndicate in the attacks is not regarded as far-fetched. "The PSA is therefore calling on the Department to act decisively before lives are lost. The shortage of doctors, particularly in Limpopo, is well-documented and the effects of these attacks on hospital staff are therefore even more worrying. Hospital staff deserve a safe working environment to allow them to serve the community. The PSA hopes that the Department will take urgent steps to prevent further attacks and allay employees' concerns for their safety," said Mr Fredricks.

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