

**MEDIA RELEASE**      PSA response to State of the Province Address by Premier of Limpopo

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**EMBARGO**                 None

**ENQUIRIES**              communication@psa.co.za

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) noted the 2026 State of the Province Address (SOPA) delivered by the Premier of Limpopo.

Whilst the PSA acknowledges the difficult circumstances facing the Province, including the devastating floods and the impact on communities, the Union remains concerned that the address fell short of responding decisively to the challenges faced by workers and working-class families. The SOPA placed strong emphasis on job creation through agriculture, infrastructure development, and economic recovery programmes. The PSA is, however, concerned that little clarity was provided on the quality, security, and sustainability of these jobs. Workers in Limpopo continue to be trapped in short-term, seasonal, and project-based employment that offers no long-term security. Job creation must be rooted in decent work, fair wages, and full compliance with labour laws.

Service delivery challenges were acknowledged, yet the address did not adequately confront the reality faced by public servants. Many provincial departments remain critically understaffed, with vacant posts, increasing workloads, and declining morale. Workers in health, education, water services, roads, and local government are overburdened and often unfairly blamed for failures caused by poor planning and weak management.

Whilst commitments to infrastructure rebuilding are welcomed, the PSA cautions that such programmes have historically excluded local labour and undermined labour standards. The SOPA did not clearly outline how government will ensure that reconstruction efforts create local, safe, and fairly regulated employment opportunities.

The address further lacked firm commitments on accountability and consequence management for persistent underperformance, corruption, and maladministration. It also failed to adequately address the cost-of-living crisis and the continued erosion of workers' incomes.

The PSA maintains that Limpopo's challenge is not a lack of plans, but a lack of implementation, accountability, and worker-centred governance. Public servants must be supported, respected, and engaged as key partners in rebuilding the Province.

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