

<b>MEDIA RELEASE</b>	PSA welcomes Mpumalanga Premier's commitment to building "Province that works for all": Calls for urgent implementation
<b>DATE</b>	9 March 2026
<b>EMBARGO</b>	None
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) acknowledges the 2026 State of the Province Address (SOPA) delivered by the Premier of Mpumalanga on 5 March 2026.

The Premier reported signs of economic recovery in the Province, including growth in employment figures, with more than 37 000 jobs reportedly created and employment reaching approximately 1.28 million people by the end of 2025. Whilst the PSA acknowledges these developments, the Union emphasises that sustainable economic growth must include strengthening the public service and ensuring adequate staffing levels in critical Departments such as Health, Education, and Social Development.

The Premier further announced infrastructure and investment plans estimated at R238 billion, including initiatives linked to the green economy and the Nkomazi Special Economic Zone. The PSA welcomes these plans but cautions that large-scale investment must be accompanied by transparent procurement processes, strict anti-corruption measures, and effective project implementation to ensure that communities and frontline workers benefit from these initiatives.

In the Health Sector, the Premier reaffirmed government's commitment to expanding healthcare infrastructure through the construction of new hospitals and clinics. The PSA supports these commitments but stresses that infrastructure alone will not resolve service-delivery challenges. Urgent attention must be given to filling critical vacancies, improving working conditions for healthcare workers, and strengthening supply-chain systems to prevent recurring shortages of essential resources.

In Education, commitments were made to improve school infrastructure and increase the number of educators. The PSA views this as an important step, particularly for rural and under-resourced communities, where overcrowding, insufficient staffing, and inadequate facilities continue to undermine quality education.

Whilst the Premier's address outlines a vision for economic recovery and improved service delivery, the PSA cautions that many of these commitments have been repeated in previous years without sufficient progress. Public servants and communities expect 2026 to prioritise implementation rather than further policy announcements. Public servants are central to achieving the Province's developmental goals. Economic recovery, improved healthcare, and quality education will not be possible without adequately supported, properly staffed, and fairly treated public servants.





The PSA will closely monitor the implementation of the commitments outlined in the SOPA, including budget allocations, recruitment processes, and service-delivery outcomes across Provincial Departments. The PSA is committed to constructive engagement with government but will not hesitate to hold the Provincial Administration accountable should these commitments fail to translate into tangible improvements for workers and communities. The PSA urges the Provincial government to ensure that the vision presented in the 2026 SOPA is matched by visible, measurable, and transparent action that improves service delivery and the working conditions of public servants.

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