

**ADDRESS BY MACCOLLEN NTSIKELELO JACK: MEC FOR  
FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM TO THE  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE ON THE  
OCCASION OF TABLING BUDGET VOTE 6**

**28 JUNE 2018**

**Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker**

**Honourable Premier - Mme Sylvia Lucas**

**Honourable Members of the Executive Council**

**Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature**

**Executive Mayors, Mayors and Speakers of our  
municipalities present**

**Heads of Department**

**Chairpersons of Boards and representatives of the Provincial  
Public Entities**

**Senior management and officials of the Provincial  
Government**

**Distinguished Guests**

**People of the Northern Cape**

**Representatives of Labour, Civil Society and the Media**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

**Good Morning, Dumelang, Goeie Môre, Molweni, Sanibonani**

**Honourable Speaker,** I am presenting the Department of Economic Development and Tourism Budget Vote during an important day in the history of our country. A day when our struggle stalwart, Martin Thembisile 'Chris' Hani was born.

If Comrade Chris was still alive today, it would be his 76<sup>th</sup> birthday. An ardent Marxist, Comrade Chris, was the Chief of Staff of Umkhonto we Sizwe, military arm of the African National Congress (ANC) and General-Secretary of the South African Communist Party (SACP). He was born in the rural village of Sabalele, in the Cofimvaba region of the Transkei. Comrade Chris was assassinated by white extremists on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1993.

Today, as we celebrate the life and times of Comrade Chris Hani, we should remind ourselves that, Comrade Chris, was many things to many people. He loved South Africa and its people, including young people.

As the Youth Month draws to an end, we are reminded, **Honourable Speaker,** that the National Development Plan singles out our youthful population as an opportunity to boost economic growth, increase employment and reduce poverty.

Today I am presenting the budget speech in the company of the Northern Cape young people, seated at the gallery, who regardless of their daily challenges, have managed to conquer their fears and continue to move the Province forward.

Our young people have done us proud at the Lilizela Tourism National Awards. In our mist, join me in congratulating, **Ms Mpho Cornelius, Ms Kim Maruping and Mr Kabelo Mothupi.**

**Mpho** is a young female tourism entrepreneur from Kuruman, who bagged two National Lilizela Awards, one as the best black tourism entrepreneur in South Africa and the other for presenting the best Cultural and Lifestyle tourism experience in the country. She is the owner of WorkShop Ko-Kasi in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District.

**Kim and Kabelo**, won the South Africa's Best Tourist Guide, respectively.

**Honourable Speaker**, our youth are rising to the challenge of the fourth Industrial Revolution and are vigorous participants of the Digital Age. Recently, our e-Skills interventions saw our Northern Cape youth participating in the IT Web Security Summit 2018, at Vodacom World, Johannesburg. The Northern Cape team, which is sitting at the gallery, was represented by **Creston Campher, Layton Wildt, Keenan Gwells, Carlos Barker and Daniel Jacob**, they claimed the second spot out of eleven teams in South Africa.

We congratulate all of you!! You are the youth of Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu. It is your duty to protect Nelson Mandela and Albertina Sisulu's legacy. Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of these great stalwarts could not have come at a better time than now.

Our young people should learn more about the immense sacrifices our struggle icons made to allow us to be where we are today.

I agree with Comrade Chris Hani when he said: *“We need to create the pathways to give hope to our youth that they can have the opportunity through education and hard work to escape the trap of poverty.”*

## **Economic Overview**

**Honourable Speaker**, the recent provincial economic growth has been poor, with a growth rate of 0.3% registered in 2016. This is below growth of 0.8% in 2015 which is not keeping up with provincial population growth. It should be noted though that the poor growth in 2016 is against a backdrop of 0.6% national growth achieved and 1.4% in Sub-Saharan Africa. Emerging market and developing economies grew 4.1% in that year and global output by 3.1% overall.

According to Statistics South Africa (StatsSA, 2018), the Northern Cape economy amounted to R 67.4 billion in real value. The key contributing sectors to the provincial economic growth in 2016 are community services (2.1%), finance (1.7%), government spending (1.2%) and mining (0.9%).

Agriculture was the least contributor to the provincial economy followed by the utilities sector, it contracted by -7.1% in 2016.

## 2017/2018 HIGHLIGHTS.

The commitment I made last year, during my budget vote speech, that we are in a process of launching Norvalspont Youth Learner and Driver's licence initiative has come to realization. I am pleased to announce that our collaboration with the Provincial Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison together with Transport Education and Training Authority (TETA) has been established. I will be launching this initiative which will see more than 100 unemployed young people trained to obtain their learner and driver's licence in Norvalspont.

**Honourable speaker**, our celebration of young people does not end there. Through the Northern Cape Economic Development Agency (NCEDA), I will also launch a Driver Training Programme for our young people in the whole Province.

The Driver Training offering is targeted for the employable unemployed youth, who do not possess a driver's license but through it, can get employment. The training incorporates passing for a licence, with a mix of life skills workshops such as preparation of Curriculum Vitae, job interviews skills, communication skills and personal finance.

Two centres have been identified already for this first phase, in Frances Baard and Pixley ka Isaka Seme District for 75 candidates respectively (150). Other centres will be opened in subsequent months in ZF Mgcawu, Namakwa and John Taolo Gaetsewe Districts to cover the rest of the Province. I will be launching the project this afternoon at the Frances Baard Municipality parking bay. **From tomorrow, adverts will be placed in the local newspapers and aired on local radio stations, to indicate where the potential candidates can register.**

I am happy that these two driver's license initiatives will increase employment chances of our young people and thus reduce known social ills, such as alcohol and drug abuse and involvement in criminal activities.

As a quest to ensure digital connectivity for our youth and the unemployed, the department supported the installation of broadband connectivity at the SMME village in Galeshewe, KIDJA and the Tourism Flagship centre at the Big Hole. The public at large have access to the internet in these areas. We envisage that the youth, the unemployed and SMMEs will make use of this connectivity provided to access opportunities, seek employment and build a network of industry.

**Speaker**, in an effort to strengthening governance of our entities, I have appointed new board members to the following entities, namely; the Northern Cape Economic Development Agency, Northern Cape Gambling Board and the Northern Cape Liquor Board.

I am glad to announce that all the board members who were appointed in the respective boards have hit the ground running immediately upon their appointments.

The collaboration which was initiated by the economic cluster between NCEDA and Eastern Cape state-owned enterprise, Coega is gaining momentum.

This morning I can report to this august House that Coega has begun to assist NCEDA in projects such as the establishment of Upington Special Economic Zone on the 497 hectares of land in Upington.

Upon completion, at least twenty (20) investor projects mainly from the Renewable Energy Sector and Aviation Sector will be realized in the SEZ. We estimate that the SEZ will create about **16 165 jobs** during construction, **6 443 sustained operational jobs** and **6 003 indirect jobs**. **The total economy wide, direct, indirect and induced jobs are estimated at 28 611.**

The total infrastructure expenditure is estimated at **R2 billion** during 15 years of development. The cumulative contribution of the proposed SEZ to the economy is expected to be **R4.5 billion** over a period of 15 years.

We will continue to exploit our comparative advantages derived from the spatial benefits of our regions as the anchors of economic development. In this context, the Minister of Trade and Industry will be approached to gazette the Upington Special Economic Zone after evaluation and approval by the DTI.

We expect the post-designation processes, which include the establishment of the SEZ entity, to be completed towards the end of 2018. When implemented successfully, the Upington SEZ will contribute significantly to economic growth and job creation targets of our Province.

**Honourable Speaker**, The Northern Cape Economic Growth and Development Fund (EGDF) is used to develop SMMEs and Co-operatives across the Province with the aim of stimulating economic growth.

A total of **440 applications** from all 5 districts were received for the 2017/18 financial year and 105 enterprises were funded. However, because of the weaknesses in the system, enterprises that did not even bother to apply for funding, nearly received money because of their proximity to the authorities.

I strongly believe that if there was no interference, the fund would have achieved its objective of developing our up and coming SMMEs.

**For example, one of the up and coming young woman entrepreneur, the owner of La-Pempa Manufacturing, Keamogetswe Setshedi, nearly did not receive funding because of the weaknesses in the system which I alluded to earlier.**

At the moment only 32% women, 26% youth and 4% disabled entrepreneurs received support from the fund. The regional split is 55 enterprises in Frances Baard; 19 in JTG; 10 in Namakwa; 11 in ZF Mgcawu; and 10 in Pixley ka Seme districts respectively. We are working harder to improve the system.

In our support for the development of the Secondary Towns and Cities, a request for proposals in respect of the development of Secondary Towns and Cities pilot projects in Colesberg and Postmasburg will be advertised.

The department supports the extensive research concluded by the University of Free State on the impact of mining in the Tsantsabane Local Municipality, which shows that the municipality, mines and the renewable energy companies can direct their effort and spending appropriately towards this initiative.

**Honourable Speaker,** we are serious about job creation. The department was awarded **R2million** EPWP grant-funding for 2017/18. I am proud to announce that **422 work opportunities** were created across the province through this programme.

Fifty youth were trained in Dikgatlong and Frances Baard on New Venture Creation through the Services Seta in collaboration with a local company accredited with the Services Seta. Also, fifteen youth and nine people living with disabilities were trained in Pre-start Up business skills in Upington. Another twenty-five people were trained in basic computer skills in De Aar.

The Department assisted **40 businesses** to participate in various local and international exhibitions and fairs. A local small business, **Lindo Trading 576**, through their exposure at the Good Food & Wine Show in Johannesburg was linked up with clients in China and Brazil. They have secured local clients such as Kimberley Club as well as a new group of hotels in Limpopo.

The following emerging entrepreneurs; **African Farm Products**, **Alf's Print making** and **MSG Designs** were exposed to **China International Fair for Trade & Investment (CIFIT)** in Xiamen (China).

**Honourable Speaker**, Township Tourism is one of the sectors with great potential both locally and nationally. Walking trails have been developed in Fraserburg, Williston and Sutherland which includes heritage and other attractions in the townships.

A total of 4 township-based small tourism enterprises were financially supported in 2017/18 financial year, these are: Workshop KoKasi (Mothibistad / JTG), Tumi's Adventurous Tours (Kagung / JTG), TJ's Hot Foods and Restaurant (Pabalello / ZFM) and Native Minds Tourism Research and Tours (Galeshewe / FB).

As it could be seen, only Pixley ka Seme didn't benefit, this financial year attention will be given to Colesberg, De Aar and Carnarvon.

## **2018/19 BUDGET ALLOCATION AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS**

**Honourable Speaker**, in the same breath, as the governing party we are the first to admit that while there is a good story to tell, our people are not yet free until they are free from abject poverty, increasing unemployment and inequality.

The 2018/19 policy and budget statement seek to inspire hope by affirming the New-Dawn of the country's' political discourse. We need unity of purpose expressed in the National Development Plan as we march side by side to entrench the ideals of the second radical phase of the transition anchored on a call for radical socio-economic transformation.

**Honourable Speaker**, please allow me to table the budget allocation of the Department for 2018/19 financial year which amounts to **R314, 834 million**.

I have already indicated in the **Budget Speech 2017** that fiscal consolidation by national government has resulted in reductions in provincial baselines. This department's allocation is a nominal increase of **R18, 316 million**; this represents a 6.2 percent increase on the 2017/18 financial year.

The baseline budget of 2017/18 was decreased by **R12, million** which is a 4% decrease.

### **Programme 1: Administration**

**Honourable Speaker**, a total of **R65, 573 million** is allocated to Administration, to provide strategic economic direction to the province and facilitate the implementation of our mandate.

### **Programme 2: Small Business Development**

The programme has been allocated **R64, 949 million** which includes an amount of **R29, 799 million** for EGDF. This allocation will be utilised for support to enterprises, development of local economies and the empowerment of historically disadvantaged individuals.

**Honourable Speaker,** The EGDF has been a subject of much controversy. Various stakeholders including Mayors, Municipal Managers and SMME's have expressed serious concerns on how the department continues to manage this fund amidst the lack of transparency and proper monitoring.

The issues of concern have been the model of disbursement and the impact that this intervention has on our SMME's in the Province.

This august House might be aware that, one of the commitments that I made in my maiden speech was to look at various models to ensure that we affirm our SMME's in projects that can become sustainable and therefore result in optimum impact and value. The Department has decided to have a relook at the entire system.

**Honourable Speaker,** in the light of the above, it is clear that the current modalities used need to be re-worked and, for that reason I have applied my mind and decided to deviate from the current policy guideline and shift the entire 2018/19 EGDF **from the department to the Northern Cape SMME Trust.**

I have instructed that the 2018/19 financial year application process be re-advertised correctly via the Northern Cape SMME Trust and the closing date will now be 31 July 2018. This process will include advertising in our district-based media houses, calling for submission of business plans through our districts, long-listing and short-listing will be done and recommendations will be submitted for funding to the Northern Cape SMME Trust.

**In our quest to ensure transparency in the EGDF process, we will advertise the long-list, short list and also advertise the approved list of beneficiaries of the EGDF.**

The new proposed model of using the Northern Cape SMME Trust will allow the DEDAT to provide adequate support and formulate a proper framework that can satisfy all stakeholders and enhance transparency.

A concerted effort will be made to ensure equitable regional spread of funding, and public awareness will most likely be the key determinant to the number of applications received.

Moving forward, we will facilitate that SMMEs and Cooperatives with contracts or purchase orders from our municipalities also access funding through this arrangement. The modalities and business framework will be finalised?

**Honourable Speaker,** as per the NDP and the Nine-point plan we will continue to put emphasis on small business as a catalyst for job creation and economic growth. Local Procurement opportunities will be identified in the Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPS). The economic potential for Shale Gas extraction will be pursued as well.

Closer relations with State Owned Enterprises will be fostered to link even more SMME's to public procurement opportunities.

The programme will continue to offer the non-financial support ranging from business planning, marketing, assisting with access to new markets, access to funding, finance and incentives, and information and capacity building. This support will be rendered to green and brownfield enterprises and entrepreneurs to ensure they increase sales, markets, turn-over and job creation.

**Honourable Speaker,** The DEDAT will set aside and transfer **R5 million** to be allocated equally to the District Municipalities to further support and enhance economic development initiatives.

In our efforts to put significant emphasis on the revival of the Township Economy, the DEDAT will set aside **R3 million** to support this Programme.

### **Programme 3: Trade and Sector Development**

**Honourable Speaker,** this programme has been allocated

**R50, 054 million** of which **R17, 251 million** is to be transferred to NCEDA. This budget will assist to stimulate economic growth through the development of key sectors, facilitation of trade and attraction of investment. The need to address the high level of unemployment confronting our people cannot be over emphasised. It is against this background that we are embarking on a large re-industrialisation programme for sustainable growth.

We will continue to pursue initiatives to attract Foreign-Direct Investment (FDI) with a strategic focus on those initiatives that impact economic growth and job creation.

Our High-Impact projects such as the Upington SEZ and the Boegoebaai Deep Port Harbour Development were extensively marketed in our recent endeavours to attract foreign investment.

The Port of Boegoebaai will catalyse economic impacts associated with the key economic drivers that will enable investments in natural resources sectors that are currently constrained by lack of access to infrastructure. Thus, enabling iron-ore and manganese export, the development of Namaqualand gas-to-industry cluster and fertiliser plant.

In order to attract export orientated manufacturing companies to the area, permits will be issued for the development of industrial parks as an SEZ initiative intended. The port at Boegoebaai would be the only major port between Walvis Bay and Cape Town to have a dry dock and maintenance facilities for ships requiring assistance.

During our recent mission to the People's Republic of China, the Northern Cape Economic Development Agency entered into a Memorandum of Co-operation with the SA Honglin Investments (PTY) LTD) to pursue the development of the Northern Cape Economic Development Corridor as a natural extension to the National Development Plan and the Chinese One Belt One Road Initiative.

The agreement will lead to the development of the deep-sea harbour in Boegoebaai as well as the training centre that will largely benefit the myriad of unemployed youth in the area.

**Honourable speaker,** the Chinese investors have committed to take twenty youths, in and around the areas where the envisaged port is to be built, for skills development training in harbour related programs in China.

To kickstart this investment program, we urgently need to establish a Management Committee which will be charged with project managing and coordinating:-

- The proposed harbour development and associated rail and road infrastructure linking the port with its economic hinterland.
- Identification of a mix of commodities that could provide the base for the rail and port infrastructure.
- Possible cement plant, natural gas terminal, fertiliser plant, mineral processing projects and industrial projects.
- Renewable energy project.
- An industrial zone to bolster the development of local industry.
- A possible new water storage and hydro-electric project.

This Committee, will take responsibility in consultation with EXCO as the Executive Council will take the final decision for obtaining necessary regulatory approvals, recruiting investment funding for projects, undertaking technical design work and liaising with all relevant national government departments and development agencies as and when required.

I have instructed our Trade and Investment unit, to work hand in hand with NCEDA, to market and promote the province as a competitive trade and investment destination by focusing on potential investment projects for domestic and foreign direct investment, increase the volume of trade between the Northern Cape and targeted export markets such as BRICS as well as offer investment and trade promotion services to investors and exporters.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Department in collaboration with **the dti**, will roll-out Export Development Awareness workshops in all districts to prepare SMMEs for the successful expansion of their businesses into international markets. Four investment initiatives will be supported while 19 companies will be exposed to export markets.

The implementation process for both the Northern Cape Metals Industrial and Clothing Clusters (NCMICC) in Kuruman will continue in 2018/2019 as well as the implementation of the Agro-processing Cluster.

The value-chain on precious and semi-precious minerals will be exploited to benefit the citizens of the Province. This includes skills development through KIDJA.

**Honourable Speaker,** I am proud to announce that during our recent trip to the People's Republic of China, history was made when a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Hebei Geo University, the Sol Plaatje University and the Kimberley International Diamond and Jewellery Academy (KIDJA), towards establishing a joint bachelor's degree, which will be the first of its kind in the world, on diamond and jewellery development. This will see our students spending three years in China and one year in Kimberley to study everything about diamond industry, which is meeting the growing market needs in China. It will also generate financial income to KDJI and KIDJA, as well as international awareness of the Kimberley diamond brand.

The design and accreditation in South Africa on joint Bachelor's Degree (Diamond major) programme will be completed in 2019.

The MOU also included the creation of a joint short-term training programme on diamond polishing, cutting, evaluation, incorporated with trainings for the qualification of world renowned certificates such as Gemmological Institute of America and European Gemmological Laboratory and College of Gemmology.

The existence of this official platform will also provide Chinese investors' confidence to venture into the Northern Cape, especially when it comes to collaborating with SMMEs. The initiation of China-South Africa Diamond Conversation Mechanism will also open an official entry for South Africa entities consolidate the brand assets of the Province diamonds in Chinese market.

Honourable Speaker, I would like to thank the KIDJA board of directors under the capable leadership of the chairperson, **Advocate Itemogeng Desmond Steenkamp** for spearheading this initiative. **I will also like to extend my warmest regards to the Vice-Chancellor of SPU, Professor Yunus Ballim (in absentia), for believing in this dream.**

During the same trip, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the JC Group (A public company listed on the Hong Kong Exchange) and Blue Noze Resource (which is an incubate of our own KIDJI) for close collaboration on prospecting the primary mining potentials of identified alluvial diamond sites. An initiation Paper Signing Ceremony took place between the State Diamond Trader of South Africa, KIDJI and Shanghai Diamond Exchange (SDE). This is to initiate dialogue between China and South Africa and encourage frequent communication by formal annual conference and exchange programmes.

The JC Group also committed to assist and invest in the development of the Secondary Towns and Cities Pilot Project in Postmasburg and Colesberg.

**Honourable Speaker**, in his own words, the Minister of Energy, Honourable Jeff Radebe, pronounced that the Northern Cape Province is undoubtedly the “**Solar King**” of Africa, boasting direct normal radiation that is one of the highest in the world, surpassing that of Spain and North America.

With this in mind, the Department will continue to facilitate the expansion of the Renewable Energy Sector and the roll-out of the Enterprise Incubator Programme.

Last year, I announced that the province will host the Mining Indaba and Renewable Energy Conference. The Mining Indaba was held in Kuruman last year. However, due to concerns raised by different stakeholders at the Indaba, we agreed that we will do a re-run of the Mining Indaba. This will ensure that we jointly discuss and agree on how to implement and coordinate outstanding initiatives.

The mining industry has left significant environmental damage in the province. In an effort to mitigate this damage we will be consulting with DMR to avail previously mined land for rehabilitation and other uses. We will also engage all the mining companies in the province focusing on their reserves, rehabilitation opportunities and the possibility of availing land for agricultural purposes.

We also resolved to engage with the stakeholders in the industry to come up with joint projects that we need to support and implement.

In the same vein, we welcome the intervention by the Department of Minerals and Resources (DMR), for facilitating the legalisation of informal miners in Kimberley. We are glad that finally, the Minister of Mineral Resources, Honourable Gwede Mantashe has gazetted the draft Mining Charter, which allows the public 30 days to submit their comments.

The Honourable Minister has made an undertaking in parliament that the charter would serve as "secondary legislation" as opposed to punitive law.

**This year we will host the Renewable Energy Conference on from the 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> of August in De Aar.**

Indeed, our Province is incredibly rich in potential renewable energy power generation capacity.

This **Solar King of the World** is home to 31 of the 62 operational projects, which have so far contributed a total of **1 925 MW to the national grid**. The aggregate impact of the Bid Window 1 to 4 and Small IPP projects' investments and earnings projected for local communities in the Province (over 20 years) present a net income of **R18.3 billion**.

The IPP projects in the Northern Cape that have been procured in Bid Windows 1 to 4 and the Small IPP Programme have made a combined socio-economic development commitment of **R13.2 billion** over the 20-year planned project operational life. These funds will be used for community development and poverty eradication projects in the province, including areas such as health, education, social welfare, child and youth development and taking care of the elderly. The Enterprise Development contributions, which seek to stimulate small business development in the Province, amount to **R3.5 billion**. This contribution will accrue over the operational life of the projects located in the province.

#### **Programme 4: Business Regulation and Governance**

**Honourable Speaker**, the programme has been allocated **R40, 757 million** of which the Liquor Board has been allocated **R12, 595 million** and the Gambling Board has been allocated **R14, 704 million**. This allocation will enable the programme to ensure an equitable, socially responsible business environment that allows for predictability and economic growth.

The department has a twin responsibility of enabling economic growth and regulating industries in the interest of society.

While society expects us to help grow the economy, and the industries continues to find new ways of drawing clients to their establishments, it is equally important that effective regulations are in place to prevent business practices that will have undesirable impact on communities.

I am pleased to announce that our entities, NCEDA, the Northern Cape Liquor Board and Northern Cape Gambling Board have completed their organisational realignment and the process of building better and capable state-owned entities is gaining momentum. During the course of this year, we will conclude the process of filling the vacancies in some of the Boards of the entities and appoint new personnel in the administration of these entities.

**Honourable Speaker,** The Bingo Operating License is on course. A Legislative change and amendment is essential in this regard. Legislative amendments should include the collection of levy for Bingo as currently it does not include Bingo for collection. This process should be finalised by December 2018.

The Province will continue lobbying and discussing with the National Minister on a need for the approval of the two new casino licenses.

The Liquor Board will be encouraged to issue liquor licenses responsibly so as to mitigate the unintended consequences of our licensing regime.

## **Programme 5: Policy, Research and Innovation**

**Honourable Speaker**, the programme has been allocated **R22, 865 million** for the 2018/19 financial year to develop economic strategies informed by relevant economic research.

In order to develop the Information Society to assist the shift towards enabling SMME's and Co-operatives to exploit the economic potential in the Knowledge Economy, **I am proud to announce that through the partnership between the Northern Cape Provincial Treasury and DEDaT, we will host a two-day Northern Cape Ekasi ICT Summit in Kimberley from the 26th to 27th of September 2018.**

In our quest to bridge the digital divide, we welcome the initiative by a young Black IT company, Afrovation Community Trust, who approached us with the view to donate free WIFI hotspots in our communities. This free access to connectivity will enable the community at large to have access to information. The proposed free WIFI offering will enable the community to connect 2 devices simultaneously at 500 megabytes per device.

In order to consolidate provincial economic development plans and projects, the Department will host an **Economic Colloquium** during the 2018/19 financial year. The Colloquium is a pre-cursor to the Investment Conference as mentioned in the State of the Province Address.

The aim is for academics, government and state institutions and potential investors to deliberate and propose conclusive actions on how to stimulate provincial economic growth and foster investment. The outcomes of the Economic Colloquium will inform the development of an Economic Development Blue Print for the Northern Cape.

### **Programme 6: Tourism**

**Honourable Speaker**, the Tourism programme has been allocated **R70, 636 million** of which NCTA has been allocated **R22, 759 million** to manage the promotion of the Northern Cape as a competitive tourist destination.

The Department will continue to foster public-private-partnerships (PPP) in an effort to revitalise municipal resorts in partnership with municipalities.

Our efforts to promote the province as a sport-tourism destination, will see us hosting a pre-seasonal soccer tournament involving four teams from the Professional Soccer League. This is because a lot of economic benefits can be attained through sports tourism. Sports tourism could be used as a catalyst for the development of infrastructure such as stadia, hotels, transportation networks, roads and tele-communication.

The Coastal and Marine Tourism Strategy will be rolled out to augment policy interventions in terms of Operation Phakisa and the Ocean's Economy in order to diversify the economy on the West Coast.

To this end the Department will continue its support of the Small Harbours and State-Owned Coastal Property Development initiatives in the Namakwa District.

Feasibility studies will be conducted on developing mini conference centres in John Taolo Gaetsewe and Pixley ka Seme districts.

The National Department of Tourism has partnered with the department to develop tourism infrastructure in the coastal zone targeting Port Nolloth, McDougalls Bay, Kleinsee, Hondeklip Bay and Springbok.

We partnered with the national departments of Tourism and Science and Technology to develop the Square Kilometer Array Exploratorium in Carnarvon. The designs and preparations for construction will be completed in this financial year.

In the spirit of celebrating the centenary of President Nelson Mandela, the Department in partnership with the McGregor Museum, will present an exhibition of experiences and attractions he visited in the Northern Cape. I call on all of you and the public to visit the exhibition which will be launched in July this year.

## **In conclusion**

**Honourable Speaker**, our fight against fraud and corruption is far from over- it needs to be intensified. I support the renewed call by the President Cyril Ramaphosa for random life style audits for public representatives and senior managers.

Lest we forget the most famous words of Comrade Chris Hani: *“What I fear is that the liberators emerge as elitists . . . who drive around in Mercedes Benzes and use the resources of this country . . . to live in palaces and to gather riches.”*

**Honourable Speaker**, let me take this opportunity to thank my family and most importantly my beautiful wife for their understanding and support in my calling to serve the people of the Northern Cape.

Let me thank the Acting HOD and the team he leads and also express appreciation to my dedicated team in the Ministry, led by Head of Ministry, Mr Darius Babuseng, for their hard work and commitment.

I hereby table the 2018/19 budget of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for the consideration of this house.

I thank you.