



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Media Statement

All Media Houses

For Immediate Release

08 January 2025

The Limpopo Department of Education MEC Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya joined by Collins Chabane mayor, Shadrack Maluleke visited three schools in Vhembe East, Gidjana Senior secondary school, Hoji senior primary school and Shingwedzi high school to inspect storm damaged infrastructure and to check the schools readiness for the 2025 academic year.

Gidjana Senior secondary school has an enrolment of 393 learners and it's also one of the best performing schools in the district. The severe storms that hit the area late last year, left a trail of destruction, breaking windows, uprooted trees and left schools without roofs. As it stands, Gidjana would not resume with learning and teaching when schools reopen next week without an intervention. The storeroom of the school was completely damaged and stationery needs to be replaced. 8 mobiles have so far been sought for the school and delivery has already started.

Hoji senior primary school has an enrolment of 185 learners from grade 5 to 7. Part of the school has since been fixed through the intervention of the school governing body.

MEC Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya urged school principals to stop using the affected classrooms and instructed her team to act swiftly in schools where repairs are needed. In the meantime, relief in form of mobile classrooms will be provided for immediate use.

"There should be accountability in making sure that this issue is sorted as it is urgent so that the 2025 academic year would not be affected, said MEC Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya".

Shingwedzi high school that was also affected by the storm has already commenced with the academic year 2025 and the MEC used the opportunity to motivate over 230 learners who are doing grade 12. She urged learners to do exceedingly well as she believed in their potential to invent something worthwhile because they are the future.

The province has over 130 schools that were damaged by the storm in the previous year alone. Preliminary reports estimated the damage to be over R550 million. The MEC is pleased that some of the schools have already started attending to the damages to ensure that learning and teaching start without disruptions next week.

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