



To all media houses

29 February 2024

COPE STATEMENT ON THE NORTHERN CAPE SOPA – A TALE OF UTTER FAILURE

For immediate release

The Northern Cape State of the Province Address delivered by Premier Zamani Saul today, 29 February 2024, was just a Public Relations stunt.

The Premier lives in a parallel universe, utterly detached from the livid realities of most Northern Cape people.

The failure to fulfill just two of his basic promises exposes his failures.

Firstly, he made bold promises to fix the Departments of Health and Education. These are the most prominent departments with the most significant budgets.

Five years later, they are in the same weak position, if not weaker. They both have Acting HODs with almost every other manager in an Acting capacity. In both Departments, they've each had 5 HOD's for the term of his administration. This has led to instability, poor service delivery, and a breakdown in governance integrity.

The last spot for the Northern Cape in the rankings for matric results is the direct result of this failure to ensure good governance. He admits to having failed in the availability and response times of the ambulance services during critical times for the sick and injured and their families. He has no empathy.

Secondly, he promised to implement a plan for a "Modern Growing Successful Province". Five years later, he had just one inaugural meeting of a so-called "Economic Advisory Council", and nothing after that. He ends the term with no economic growth plan to guide all social partners and government programmes. You fail to plan; you plan to fail.

Many of his claims are just self-preservation and pie-in-the-sky things. Today, the people are poorer, unemployed, and living in squalor conditions. He fails to deliver clean and reliable water in the capital city, Kimberley, and his silence is deafening. He failed to provide leadership.

COPE calls on the province's people to go out in large numbers to vote them out of power to save the province and install a better government.

ENDS.

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