

via new 19 26/02/13

# Premier outlines plans, but is short on detail

LOUISE FLANAGAN

GAUTENG'S premier announced a long wish-list of projects yesterday but was a little short on delivery timelines.

Combating violence against women and children got a big punt, but corruption barely rated a mention.

The big projects are the infrastructure developments, which are mainly run through national entities. These include massive railways and logistics network upgrades.

Gauteng's Department of Infrastructure Development has hired 160 new technical staff recently, which will help provincial infrastructure delivery.

Mokonyane promised improved action against violence against women and children. "Following the horrific rape and killing of Anene Booysen which shocked the nation, the recent killing of a young woman, Reeva Steenkamp, by Oscar Pistorius has thrust South Africa into an unfortunate global spotlight. We know of the brutal gang-rape of a 17-year-old by 15 men in Khutsong on Friday," she said.

Delivering her State of the Province address, Mokonyane said there was no single solution and called for men to join the campaign.

"Rape is wrong. It can never be justified," she said, and promised improved forensic services to improve arrests and prosecutions.

The Premier's Hotline turned a year old, and answered 121 000 calls and had "a resounding case resolution rate of 98 percent", said Mokonyane.



Gauteng Premier Nomvula Mokonyane during her opening address at the annual opening of the Gauteng legislature in Joburg.

PICTURE: CHRIS COLLINGRIDGE

Corruption merited just two paragraphs in the 32-page speech, and plans on this were vague. The premier said the province "moved to tighten management controls in key areas", and said that 70 of the 150

fraud and corruption cases she referred to in her speech a year ago had been resolved, while investigations continued on the rest. No further cases were mentioned.

Mokonyane said the province

aimed to reduce legal claims against it with a new litigation management plan.

The Alexandra Renewal Programme was mentioned, but no specific plans for 2013/14 were listed.