

HAWKS SEARCH AND SEIZE DOCUMENTS

Premier welcomes raid

by MOHANOE KHIBA

Lentswe, Mahikeng - The Hawks in the North West have conducted a search and seizure operation at the offices of the North West Premier on Thursday 8 March.

According to the provincial Hawks spokesperson, Capt Tlangelani Rikhotso, the operation follows investigations in relation to alleged maladministration, fraud and corruption. The monetary value involved is approximately R160 million.

“Several documents which will assist in the ongoing probe were seized from different offices. No arrests were made at this stage pending further investigation. This is an ongoing probe and we cannot divulge any further information. Investigation continues into the matter,” Capt Rikhotso said.

An unshaken Premier Supra Mahumapelo immediately reacted by saying: “In all my State of the Province Addresses (SOPA) since 2014, I have always emphasized the importance of all of us as directed by our organization (the ANC) to intensify at all fronts, the campaign against greed, crime and corruption.

In this regard the North West government adopted a monthly Setsokotsane programme focusing on 10 campaigns, which includes this matter.”

Mahumapelo said in his recent SOPA in Marikana, he reiterated that they must work and allow South Africa’s law enforcement agencies to do their work without fear, favour or prejudice.

“That is why as the Office of the Premier, we welcome and support the initiative taken by the Hawks in relation to allegations of fraud and corruption within sections of Supply Chain Management in the Office of the Premier and department of Finance.

“We also want to remind our people that we have instituted various ongoing investigations such as the SIU in the department of Public Works and Roads, forensic investigations in departments of Health, Local Government and Human Settlements, and the rest of other departments, including some of the municipalities,” the Premier added.

He further said it is important for all of them, irrespective of their positions within government and elsewhere, to allow their offices to be subjected to the rule of law. “We are fully cooperating with the Hawks and all other law enforcement agencies to strengthen the values of democracy in our Republic.

“We urge everyone not to sensationalise these important matters of our province and rather support these law enforcement agencies to do their work without any hindrance.”



Premier Supra Mahumapelo.