

ANC lauds health budget

HLONI MASHIGO

THE ANC provincial secretary Deshi Ngxanga said the party has welcomed the budget presented by the department of health today at the provincial legislature by MEC Fufe Makatong.

“The budget vote reflects the ANC’s elevation of health as one of the five priorities of the ANC as the ruling party.

“We made a commitment to fight corruption, we are of the view that corruption robs the poor, resulting in the lack of service delivery to our communities.”

He said he applauded Makatong’s intensity in fighting against corruption.

He welcomed the departments’ plan to curb medical malpractice, litigation and identify all open-ended deals and contracts with a view to approaching a court of law to have them declared null and void in order to arrest the uncontrolled growth of accruals. And also take disciplinary action and other consequence management measures, as well as engaging law enforcement agencies, where such actions are necessary.

“The ANC applauds the department for ensuring that close to 800 young people are employed and participants in the Expanded Public Works Programme as health facility assistants.” Ngxanga said. He said the party was encouraged by the MEC’s commitment for stability in health management and governance through the established hospital boards and clinic committees, and prioritising to fill all clinical and management posts during this financial year.

“The ANC also appreciates that the department is heeding the call we made during our mid-term Lekgotla, ensuring that the District Health System is functional and responsive to patient and staff safety, reducing waiting times, cleanliness, staff attitudes, availability of medicines and infection control.”

He said departmental commitments are appreciated as they are in honour and memory of, to what Mama Albertina Sisulu devoted her life for the 43 years of service as a nurse and a struggle stalwart.

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