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Welkom: Torrential rains that began last week, non stop throughout the weekend, created havoc. Residents of Hani Park and Bronville had their homes, schools closed and roads flooded. Many residents were evacuated to places of safety.



Both Bronville and Chris Hani primary schools had to send Learners back home as the schools had also been flooded. Emergency services and police assisted vehicles that were stuck on the flooded roads.



During the course of today, the Premier of the Free State, Mme Sisi Ntombela; accompanied by MEC's delegation that included MEC of Sports, Arts and Culture; Mme Mathabo Leeto, MEC of Public Works and Infrastructure; Mme Dora Kotzee and Executive Mayor of Matjhabeng Local Municipality; Nkonsinjani Speelmaan, visited the affected area and said that the area should be declared a disaster area.

"All the departments are on their way to come to Welkom. I have called all the departments so that all of us must sit down and see what it is we can do. But unfortunately I have just received another call that in Marquard it is now very bad, the river has burst its banks, so it is even worse than here, so I must now rush to Marquard and leave the other MEC's here and go to Marquard to see what we can do." said the Premier.



Executive Mayor of Matjhabeng, Nkosinjani Speelman said that areas that have also been affected by floods; other than Bronville, include Thabong, Virginia, Allenridge and Ventersburg. He also said some areas of Matjhabeng could be declared disaster areas.

Efforts continue to salvage people's belongings and houses from this disaster.