

De Lille in bid to fix sick buildings

By **KARABO RAMMUTLA**

PUBLIC Works Minister Patricia de Lille says corrupt officials are to blame for government buildings being in a bad state.

She was briefing the media in Tshwane on the implementation plan for court building repairs and maintenance.

“This disgraceful practice is coming to an end. The special investigating unit also has an existing proclamation for the department up until 2020 to investigate allegations relating to day-to-day maintenance projects in the department,” she said.

“We’ve started with repairs and maintenance to the courts as most of the complaints on the state of government buildings are about the courts.”

De Lille said she had invited Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng to explain to public works and justice officials how inability to maintain and repair buildings impacted judicial processes.

“The National Prosecuting Authority, and the departments of justice, health and social development, are key role players in the greater justice system. Processes



Public Works Minister Patricia de Lille says her department’s corrupt officials are to blame. Photo by Morapedi Mashashe

that undermine the efficiency of these departments should be dealt with,” said de Lille.

“We were told about a roof that was leaking at the Constitutional Court and people who were stuck in lifts at a Durban court.”

De Lille said the department of justice had given hers R531 million for infrastructure upgrades and new accommodation for courts.