



Member of Executive Council  
for Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation  
FREE STATE PROVINCE

**SPEECH OF THE MEC FOR SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION, MRS MATHABO LEETO, ON THE TABLING OF THE BUDGET VOTE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION, 18 MARCH 2016, WELKOM.**

Honourable Speaker

Honourable Premier

Colleagues in the Executive Council

Honourable Members of the Legislature

Executive Mayors, Mayors and Councillors present

Representatives of House of Traditional Leaders

Representatives of Sport Federations as well as Arts and Culture Councils

Management and Officials of the Department

Baahi ba Foreistata

Ladies and Gentlemen

Comrades

It is an honour and a privilege to be given the opportunity to present the 2016/2017 budget at the sitting of the legislature which takes place on the date when the results of the White-Only referendum to end Apartheid was announced in South Africa. The vote in which those in favour of abolishing apartheid system out-numbered those opposed to the abolishment of that system. The journey of the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1992 continued to 1994, but it continued in a different angle, because in 1994 all the people of South Africa got an opportunity to decide on how their country must be ruled, unlike in 1992 when Blacks were not allowed to participate in the referendum.

We as the people of the Free State and South Africa, we are proud about the achievements of the ANC Government that has moved our country forward. Today all citizens have equal rights. We are so proud that later this year we will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, which commits all of us to;

- Recognize the injustices of the past
- Honour those who suffered for justice and freedom in our land
- Respect those who have worked to build and develop our country
- And believe that South Africa belong to all who live in it

The Constitution call upon all of us to unite in our diversity, despite our race, gender, religion and culture. Kofi Annan once said, and I quote,

“We may have different religions, different languages, different coloured skins, but we all belong to one human race”. Unquote.

Honourable Speaker,

The Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation has been allocated an amount of **R655.128 million** in 2016/17 Financial Year. This is a decrease of **3.6%** compared to the budget of the previous financial year. This amount will fund four programmes and they are as follows:

1. Administration and Financial Management: **R86.806 million**
2. Cultural Affairs: **R 151.117 million**
3. Library and Archive Services: **R 235.597 million**
4. Sport and Recreation: **R 181.608 million**

## **1. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: R86.806 million**

This programme has been allocated an amount of **R83.806 million**. This is an increase of **6%** budgeted for this programme compared to the previous financial year. Taking into consideration the adverse economic situation that is prevalent at this moment, the department has cut 1% (R2.000 million) of the budget of the compensation of employees.

There are still critical posts that still has to be filled so as to comply with legislative requirements and posts that have been identified as critical by the Auditor General. To enhance service delivery in this resource-constrained environment the department will continue to do more with less resources and ensure that the impossible becomes possible.

The department has committed itself to a clean administration and financial management. In 2014/15 we have recorded yet another clean audit outcome, which translates to 3 consecutive financial years of clean audit. This achievement was not without challenges, it was because of collective efforts and teamwork displayed by all of us in the department. *“Ntja-pedi ha e hlolwe ke sebata”*:

As stated in the 2016/17 State of the Province Address by the Honourable Premier Ace Magashule that all service providers and suppliers must be paid within 30 days, the department is proud to report that we have complied with this directive and we will continue on that path, working together with suppliers and service providers of the department.

## **2. CULTURAL AFFAIRS: R 151.117 million**

The budget allocated for this programme in the 2016/17 financial year is **R154.117 million**, which is an increase of **13%** compared to the previous financial year.

Honourable Speaker, the Department is committed to the advancement of the National Development Plan Vision 2030 with more emphasis on Chapter 15 which advocates for, amongst other things, “Transforming Society and Uniting the Country”. Outcome 14 which talks to Social Cohesion and Nation Building is also in the implementation of the NDP.

### **HERITAGE AND MUSEUM SERVICES:**

The Days of National Significance and other Calendar Days will continue to be celebrated as a mobilising force that should pull all our citizens in the Free State and South Africa together.

Days of National Significance and other Calendar Days were celebrated during the 2015/2016 financial year:

**Freedom Day:** The 2015 Freedom Day was again successfully hosted in Sasolburg through a music festival that attracted about twenty thousand members of local communities. Besides the support we are already giving to the Freedom Day festival, we will organise the 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Freedom Day celebrations where the masses of our people will take centre stage.

**Africa Day:** In collaboration with the Free State Legislature, we successfully celebrated Africa Day in Bloemfontein where different cultures and traditions

in song and dance were displayed by our artists and artists from various African countries. We will continue to partner with the legislature in celebrating Africa Day in a quest to fight against the scourge of Xenophobia and racism.

**Heritage Day:** we successfully celebrated Heritage Day where over 8 000 members of various communities and participants were in attendance. In this financial year, we will also celebrate and display the diversity of the Free State people through Heritage Day. We will integrate the programme of *Re ya meriting* and *Re kgaba ka setso* in the Heritage month programme.

As part of showcasing our diverse cultures and heritage, we will partner with the Department of Social Development, Department of Education to implement the *Re kgaba ka setso* where learners and children at ECDs will be given a platform to compete on reciting their clan-names. *Re kopa batswadi ba qale ho ruta bana ba bona diboko ka puo tsa bona ka ho fapana. Ho na le polelo e reng “moloko ha o ya baneng o wa timela.”*

**Basotho New Year:** the day was successfully celebrated at the Basotho Cultural Village in QwaQwa. In 2016/2017 we will partner with Traditional Leaders and the Lesotho people to celebrate the Basotho New Year in the villages of Qwaqwa. *Re tla hopola hore Basotho ba ne ba sa sebedise sesupanako sena sa kajeno, empa ba ne ba sebedisa letsatsi ho fumana nako.*

**June 16:** Honourable Speaker, this year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of **June 16** uprisings which started in Soweto on 16 June 1976 and spread countrywide in protest of the introduction of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction. An estimated 20 000 students took part in the uprisings. They were met with police brutality and many of them lost their lives. This day profoundly changed

the socio-political landscape in South Africa. The department will celebrate this day with the youth of this province to ensure that young people remember that the gains of today, were never given on a silver-platter.

**Human Rights Day:** on March 21 a group of between 5 000 to 10 000 people converged at the local police station in the township of Sharpeville, offering themselves up for arrest for not carrying their pass books. Many of the civilians attended to support the protest but met their unfortunate death at the hands of the security forces. People who were brutally murdered by the police force included women and children, many of whom were shot in the back as they had turned to flee.

Letatsi leo ke leo re tlamehang ho llela madi a bana ba bo rona, le ha re leboha hore madi a bona a noseditse sefate sa tokoloho. Re le mmuso wa Freistata re tla hopola bahale bao le mahlatsipa ohle re sebedisana mmoho le mmuso wa Gauteng. Re le Freistata re tla le ketekela mane Sharpeville mmoho le batho ba tulo eo. Ha meya ya bahale bohle ba ileng ba wa ka letsatsi leo e robale ka kgotso.

**International Museums Day:** Free State as part of South Africa in in journey of creating a new society. The creation of this new society mandate us to empower our young people with relevant information and knowledge that will make them patriotic about their own country. In 2016/2017 we will be celebrating International Museum Day which is normally celebrated on 18 May by transporting youth and students from the Free State to heritage sites such as:

- Freedom Park
- Wesleyan Church

- Liliesleaf Farm
- Apartheid Museum
- Robben Island; and
- Anglo-Boer Museum

Youth and students from Fezile Dabi District will be afforded an opportunity to visit the historic Liliesleaf Farm in Johannesburg and those from Mangaung district will be taken to the Anglo-Boer Museum as well as the Wesleyan Church, while learners from Lejweleputswa and Xhariep districts together with their educators will be transported to Robben Island in Cape Town. Moreover, learners from Thabo Mofutsanyana district will visit Chief Albert Luthuli Museum in Kwazulu-Natal.

We will be exposing these youths to these places of significance because it is for their benefit. As Maya Angelou once said, “No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place”.

### **Management of Museums:**

The department is responsible for the management of 11 museums and three of them depict the history and the heritage of the Voortrekker. As part of transforming museums and reduction of costs, we will integrate the collections in small museums into related provincial museums without compromising history. The Maphikela House exhibition will be developed and finalized in 2016/2017.

## **Declaration of Heritage Sites:**

Heritage plays a pivotal role in promoting nation building. In order to promote and preserve our rich heritage, we have made progress in declaring heritage sites in our province. The department through its Statutory Body called Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (FSPHRA) has officially declared and gazetted the following seven (7) places as Provincial Heritage Sites:

1. Siphon Mutsi's grave (Odendaalsrus)
2. Vuyo Charles' grave (Welkom)
3. Itumeleng Mokobo's grave (Welkom)
4. Ndooyisile Xhamfu's grave (Welkom)
5. Martha Motlhakwana's grave (Bloemfontein)
6. Martha Motlhakwana's house (Bloemfontein) and
7. Zuka Samuel Baloi's grave (Welkom)

Honourable Speaker, the former Lebohang Building has been renamed O.R. Tambo Building and the former Louis Botha Hall in the same building has now been renamed Adelaide Tambo Hall. The former CR Swart Building has also been renamed the Fidel Castro Building.

Progress has been made to establish the Lister Skhosana Interpretative Centre in Tumahole, the Heroes Park in Thaba-Nchu, The OR Tambo and Fidel Castro statues, both statues will be unveiled in 2016. This will be part of honouring those who suffered for freedom and justice in our land.

Our youth need to learn about their African culture and heritage. As Amilcar Cabral once said, "Culture is simultaneously the fruit of a people's history and a



determinant of history”. *Sesotho sona se re moloko o sa tsebeng mo o tswang teng ha o tsebe mo o yang teng.*

### **Nation Building and Social Cohesion:**

The department has conducted 207 awareness and outreach projects to promote the understanding and importance of National symbols, Nation Building and National Identity. During these awareness and outreach projects a total of 3 200 National Symbols Posters were distributed to schools as well as 600 CDs of African Union Anthem and the National Anthem, 12 300 SA Desk Flags, 6 600 National Identity Passport of Patriotism and 68 Flag Poles for schools in Fezile Dabi District.

In 2016/2017 Financial year the department will focus its National Symbols programme on schools and communities in the Lejweleputswa District.

### **Language Services:**

According to the research which was conducted leading to the development of the Free State Language Policy, the majority of the people of the Free State are Sesotho speaking, followed by Afrikaans, Setswana, Isixhosa, Isizulu, and English. As different departments we will have to endeavour to also use the indigenous languages in official communication of government information and programmes, especially because this year has been declared as “A Year to Advance the People’s Power”. We cannot be able to do so if we do not communicate in languages understood by the majority of our people. Re etsa boipiletso ho Batswadi ba buise bana dipuo tsa bona tsa Se-Afrika hobane ha ba sa etse jwalo dipuo tseo di tla fela.

The department through Language Services has assisted and provided workshops for eight (8) municipalities to develop their own Language Policies, namely: Letsemeng, Moqhaka, Dihlabeng, Tswelopele, Kopanong, Setsoto, Tokologo, and Metsimaholo municipalities.

In the previous financial year, a total number of 17 authors received assistance from the Department as follows:

- Two (2) Authors were assisted to publish their first books in Sesotho
- Ten (10) Literary artists (writers) were assisted to attend the National Arts Festival *Wordfest* held in Grahamstown and;
- Five (5) Free State authors were assisted to launch their newly published books at the *Wordfest*.

As part of the declaration made by the Free State Premier that 2016 is “A year of Free State Artists,” In 2016/17 we will:

- Revive the Free State Writers’ Forum to capacitate self-publishing authors from the Free State. The Forum will be assisted to establish writers’ organizations in local municipalities and reading clubs in different towns of the province.
- A total number of 150 writers will receive training on Creative Writing and Publishing. Furthermore, we have set a target to have, at least, 30 books published by these local authors in the new financial year.
- The MACUFE *Wordfest* will return during MACUFE and continue to serve as a platform for Free State writers to launch their books, and host workshops on writing skills and techniques.

## **ARTS AND CULTURE:**

Honourable Speaker in 2015/16 we have implemented the following programmes to develop and support the artists of the Free State:

### **TSA SETSO PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMME:**

- **Arts in Schools:** 95 Artists have been employed to develop learners on performing arts, visual arts and craft at 141 schools around the province. In 2015/16, 5 000 learners from 141 schools from all over the Free State competed against one another in local zonal competitions to qualify for the Free State Arts in Schools Festival that will be held in May 2016.
- **Arts in Correctional Centres:** the above artists also service 5 correctional services centres in the province (Kroonstad, Deneysville, Bethlehem, Virginia, Bloemfontein). We will again integrate groups from the 5 correctional facilities, Secure Centres and Juvenile Centres in the mainstream programmes and projects of the Department including MACUFE.
- **Festival Activations:** the department has activated and partnered with, and placed artists in festivals like Vryfees, Boertjiefes, National Arts Festival, Freedom Day Concert, Heritage Day Celebrations, Cherry Jazz Festival, Bloem Show etc.
- **My-Stage My World Programme:** In 2015/16 we activated various spaces with performances of 44 artists and we spent R116 000 on stipends as a dry-run for the programme. The programme will be up-

scaled and rolled out to other towns in the 2016/2017 financial year to benefit more artists. “My Stage – My World” programme the Pantsula Dance/Jive competition will continue across the province culminating into the provincial finals to afford young people in the sector the opportunity to participate and to compete. This dance used to be very popular in the townships in previous years but has since dwindled.

- **Mobile Stage Truck:** the department used the truck extensively to roll-out its programmes and has saved the department more than 60% of its expenditure in technical expenditure and services. The truck also assisted other departments in rolling out their programmes and projects and has been a great return on investment. Due to the success and high demand for the truck, the department is investigating the possibility of building another truck, hire more technicians and expand its services to benefit the artists and promoters in 2016/17.
- **Technical Support:** the department has assisted government departments with stage and sound equipment at various events including all our events e.g. Freedom Day, Heritage Day, Sports Awards PVA, Reconciliation Walk, Opening of Dr. Molemela Stadium, Big Walks, Homebrew Festival, MACUFE District Auditions, International Aids Day, SA China Week etc. The department will continue to provide this service on request to other departments in 2016/17 to allow them to free up their budgets and focus on their core business and programmes.
- **Choirs Programme:** Launched the Gospel Clap & Tap Programme on 16 December 2015 in Parys and secured a database of 150 groups which

will be expanded in the 2016/2017 financial year. The department presented the following Choral events and competitions in collaboration with LECMA.

- Interdepartmental Choir Competitions.
- LECMA Provincial Choral Competitions
- Old Mutual Provincial Choir eliminations.

Honourable Speaker, in fostering social cohesion and nation building, choirs play a vital role in disseminating messages of unity and national pride. All provincial choral competitions in 2015/2016 have incorporated the National Anthem and the Anthem of the African Union and this trend is set to continue moving forward. The following choral music events will be presented in 2016/17:

- 29th April 2016 - Interdepartmental Choir Competitions.
- 25th,26th June 2016 - SACR Choral Competitions
- 28th August 2016 -SACR Gospel Clap & Tap Competition
- December 2016 - Old Mutual National Choir Festival.
- May 2016 - YRAC Schools Choir Festival

### **Community Arts Centres:**

The Community Arts Centres in Lejweleputswa (Thabong), Fezile Dabi (Zamdela), Thabo Mofutsanyana (Phuthaditjhaba) and Mangaung (Mmabana Thaba-Nchu), in 2015/16 rolled out various performing arts, visual arts and craft programmes to many local artists and allowed more access to facilities. The Centres serve as hubs for the EPWP Integrated Arts and Culture programme to schools and the community artists. In 2016/17 more attention

will be focused on their efficiency and further capacity to provide better services to our artists.

### **NEW ARTS AND CULTURE PROJECTS**

The following new arts projects will be included in the Arts and Culture programme for the 2016/17 financial year:

#### **A. Community Media Support 2016/2017:**

In 2015/2016 we partnered with Motheo FM as a dry-run, supplied the SACR Mobile Stage Truck and procured promotional material to the value of R140 000 in the Kasi-To-Kasi programme which gave many musicians an opportunity to showcase their talents to a wider television audience. The department has also concluded an MOU with Lesedi FM in a quest to drive and improve local content. A similar approach has been made to OFM and a similar agreement will be reached in due course.

- The Department will support and enhance the capacity of local community media in ensuring that they reach more listeners in and outside the Free State province.
- We will further engage local community radio stations to play more music by Free State musicians and increase and adopt local content as their programming strategy.

An amount of **R3 million** has been made available for this commitment.

#### **B. Recording Studios:**

The Free State Executive Council through its Operation Hlasela programme has identified a need for the establishment of recording studios to assist emerging

artists, especially in rural areas, to record their music, poems and comedy so that their work can reach the broader creative sector market.

To address this challenge, in collaboration with municipalities, we will establish recording studios in various towns of the Free State where there is dire need.

An amount of **R8 million** has been budgeted for this purpose.

### **C. Film and Comedy Support:**

In 2016/17 our department will develop Free State Film-makers and comedians to ensure that we have more films and professional comedy developed from the Free State. We will utilize skilled and experienced national comedians to hone skills of our local comedians.

### **D. Photography Support:**

Wittingly or unwittingly the improvement of the process of application of Identity Documents by the department of Home Affairs has affected business for local photographers, especially emerging photographers.

The programme will contribute towards economic support of our local photographers to be more professional and to run their small enterprises because as Horace once said, "A picture is a poem without words".

An total amount of **R5 million** has been budgeted for this project.

### **MANGAUNG AFRICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL (MACUFE)**

Our support to artists to participate in our programmes will indeed intensify during the Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE) which serves as one

of the platforms where our artists can showcase their talent. In 2015 the festival sustained its growth both in terms of patronage and revenue generation.

In 2016/17 we will host the Pre-MACUFE build-up programmes in Welkom, Bethlehem, Kroonstad, and Trompsburg to give an opportunity to emerging artists to showcase their talents and contribute to the economic development agenda of the Free State. More local artists will also feature in the mainstream programme of the festival.

A budget of **R 35 million** has been set aside for MACUFE in 2016/17.

#### **Mangaung Strings Programme:**

The Mangaung String Programme is one of our flagship programmes staged through the MUSICON which provides learners from disadvantaged communities to learn and excel in the playing of string instruments like violins, cello's, and double bass. The programme has grown over the years and to date 580 learners are actively participating and are members in good standing. The majority of the learners in this programme are from the greater Bloemfontein area (188). In the past two years the Mangaung Strings Programme has broadened its impact to include learners from Kroonstad (38), Trompsburg (20), Vredefort (90), Parys (34), Koppies (47), Thaba Nchu (72) and Community (28). Due to the expansion programme that we embarked on since last year more learners from the Fezile Dabi District participate in this programme. This is the biggest of its kind in the whole country and continues to grow.

In January 2016, twenty (20) members of the Bochabela String Orchestra, which is the senior group in Mangaung Strings Programme, toured Switzerland, Austria and Germany and performed in a total of 13 concerts.



A budget of **R 750 000** has been set-aside to expand the programme.

**Theatres and other performance venues:**

The Bloemfontein Civic Theatre has once again been a beehive of activities, hosting various productions in 2015/16. This facility is for the benefit of local artists. As we stated before, the main purpose is to create spaces for community arts and create opportunities for producers and directors in line with Mzanzi's Golden Economy and ensure that it is used as a springboard for the creation of touring ventures. The following locally produced, directed and staged productions were rolled out:

Nothing But The Truth (Matric set-work), The Suit, Call Us Crazy, Koopkrag, A Night of Afro-Jazz, Golden Bean Awards, Reggae Poetry Fever, and several productions by schools and independent producers.

The Civic Theatre and Local Theatres in various municipalities will continue to be used for arts and culture performances and development in 2016/17. We will engage local municipalities to avail their facilities to emerging artists on a minimum fee.

**Mines Cultural Dance Festival:**

The Department aims to popularize the unique traditional dances as practiced in the different mines of the Free State and to promote local Cultural Dances and codification of indigenous knowledge. To this end we will provide regular workshops and create a platform for mineworkers and local Cultural Dancers to showcase their talent. The festival will be presented from 19 – 20 March

2016 at Zuka Baloyi Stadium. The 2016/17 Mine Cultural Dance Festival will take place in March 2017.

An amount of **R1,5 million** has been allocated by DAC for the festival in 2016/17.

#### **TSA BONONO VISUAL ARTS AND CRAFT PROGRAMME:**

Through the “*Tsa Bonono*” Visual Arts and Craft Programme the following platforms for Crafters and Visual Artists will once again be sustained through support to various festivals like Bloemshow and National Arts Festival,

The Department collected the works of Visual Artists and 10 Crafters from across the province to exhibit them at the National Arts Festival.

In 2016/17 we will continue to support these initiatives and add the numbers of beneficiaries to ensure that we create job opportunities and new markets for crafters and artists.

#### **Crafts Bank:**

As part of our initiatives of enhancing the craft sector and ensuring maximum participation by our artists in this sector, in 2016/17 we will establish a Crafts Bank by creating marquees (small craft statues), beadwork, and many other crafts of well-known South African leaders. Different departments will procure gifts for their visitors, especially international visitors, from the Department’s Crafts Bank. The Crafts Bank will be located in Bloemfontein.

**Crafters Flea-Market:**

The programme of establishing Crafters Market will be extended to Tumahole/Parys in a quest to support Free State visual artists and crafters in that part of the Province as well due to the town growing tourism potential.

As the department, working together with Ngwathe Municipality, we will create a crafters market in our quest to support Free State visual artists and crafters to sell their products to boost the economy of our province.

**Arts Education:**

Our Department will continue with this programme ensuring that local talent in schools is nurtured, developed and showcased. We will continue presenting workshops, but at a higher level, especially to support our top-line Free State artists. We will involve experts on all aspects of art, including legal experts, to capacitate individuals and groups involved in arts so that their products and music can be protected.

Topics include: Recording and Content, Contracts, script-writing, production, publishing and Workshops by representatives from prominent recording companies, SAMRO and DALRO.

**Arts Infrastructure:**

Honourable Speaker, the Thabo Mofutsanyana Arts and Culture Centre Phase 1 of 3 was completed in December 2015. Officials have moved into the building and they are actively contributing and creating opportunities for artists in Thabo Mofutsanyana and Phase 2 will commence in the 2016/2017.

### **3. LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES SERVICES: R235.597 million**

The total budget allocation for Library and Archives Services in the 2016/17 financial year is R235.597 million and this is a decrease of 1.1% compared to the previous financial year. It is constituted as follows:

Honourable Speaker, as the writer and scholar David Lankes once said, “Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities.”

It is for this reason that our government recognizes the importance of libraries in opening the doors of learning and culture to all. We shall continue developing and maintaining libraries despite difficult economic times.

In 2015/16 eleven (11) new libraries were under construction and the Oranjeville Library opened its doors for the public in December 2015. The Bolokanang Library will be officially opened on 31 March 2016.

Apart from extensive book collections, catering for all age groups and educational levels, from pre-school to tertiary and with books in the languages prevalent in the Free State, the new libraries are also equipped with computers for public use and dedicated on-line connectivity for Internet access.

The nine (9) libraries still under construction, will be completed over the next six (6) months. The average construction cost amounts to R16 million per library.

During 2016/17 the planning and construction of Tumahole, Bluegumbusch, Cornelia, and the Van Stadensrust Libraries will start. The budgets for these projects over the MTEF are as follows:

- Tumahole: (planning and construction)
- Bluegumbusch: (planning)
- Cornelia: (planning)
- Van Stadensrust: (construction)

All public libraries in the province have already been provided with IT equipment and Internet access, and this service is further enhanced with the provision of tablet computers and Wi-Fi areas. This project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, will add more equipment and services, such as computers for the visually impaired and educational computer games, to the existing service. The national launch of the Mzansi Libraries On-Line project will be held in the Free State at the new Bolokanang Library on 31 March 2016.

### **Black Publishers Support:**

In 2015/16, A need to support black Free State authors, publishers and booksellers was identified during 2015. the department produced a total number of **78 176** books to the value of **R7 793 410,00**. The total on black suppliers to amounted to **R6 856 568,00** which demonstrates our commitment towards radical economic transformation.

During 2016/17 an estimated 52 000 books over a wide spectrum will be procured. In 2016/17 will revive the Free State Writer's Forum to ensure that more authors and publishers are developed and empowred.

As part of the Department's contribution to priority number one which is Education, two schools in the Nyakallong Township will be supported with IT services including free Wi-Fi as part of the **"Adopt a School"** programme.

Honourable Speaker, through libraries we will implement the **National Symbols Programme**, aimed at teaching communities about the meaning and cohesive value of our national symbols. This programme will continue throughout the year and will be expanded to include adults. We will include adults to make it easy for them to impart knowledge on the youth.

The **Reading Festival**, with about 3 000 participants in 2015, will be presented again in 2016 with an increased number of participants. A Provincial Event will be held during Literacy Month and National Book Month in September 2016. This programme will be implemented to promote reading amongst youth and adults because research has revealed that the majority of South Africans, including people of the Free State, don't read.

As Emily Buchwald said, "Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." This is why we need more adults and children to make reading a habit.

#### **4. SPORT AND RECREATION – R181.608 million**

Former President Nelson Mandela – once said that, "Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else can. Sport can awaken hope where there was previously only despair."

Honourable Speaker, mandated by the NDP we will continue to use Sport and Recreation as a vehicle to promote social cohesion. The mission statement of

the National Sport Plan also gives us a mandate “to transform the delivery of sport and recreation by ensuring equitable access, development and excellence at all levels of participation”.

The budget allocated for Sport and Recreation in the 2016/17 financial year is **R181.608 million** (plus an additional R43.019 million from conditional grant which is earmarked for Mass Participation and National Training Centre).

### **Sport Programmes:**

In the 2015/16 financial year we implemented the following programmes of School Sport, Mass Participation, Community Sport, and Club Development:

1. Indigenous games
2. Senior Citizens games
3. O.R Tambo games
4. National Youth camp
5. Elijah Barayi soccer tournament
6. Motlalepule Ntsala soccer tournament
7. Siphon Mutsi games
8. Dlala Mantombazana and
9. LSEN Provincial Finals

The participation of learners in sport plays an important role in producing quality results because a healthy body produces a healthy mind, it is for this reason that we continue to implement school sport in Free State schools.

To date we have distributed equipment and attire to 1 200 schools in the province to selected Quintile 1 and 2. We are also proud to report in this house that team Free State has continued to make us proud with a minimal

budget to reach position four (4) in the SA Schools Championships behind Gauteng, KZN and Western Cape, who have massive resources and large number of participants at the games.

Our quest to promote community sport and healthy lifestyles has motivated us to provide sport equipment and attire to community clubs which participate in Elijah Barayi Soccer Tournament. This tournament is constituted by football clubs from the 80 towns of the Free State.

**Learn to swim programme:** we will partner with schools that have facilities where children from disadvantaged background can be trained on how to swim both as a life-skill and as competitive sport.

**Healthy lifestyles:** we will enlist the services of volunteers with interest in sports to work in hubs, and activate programmes on Saturday walks and aerobics. The participants will be engaged in the singing of the national anthem and recital of the preamble of the Constitution to build social cohesion and national identity.

In addition to the 9 programmes mentioned earlier, we will support the following programmes:

- 1) The Reconciliation Big Walk in Parys
- 2) Disability Games in Trompsburg

**Free State Sports Awards:**

The Free State province was a host for the 2015/16 National Sport Awards. We want to thank the national department of Sport and Recreation for giving the Free State an opportunity to host such a magnificent event. The 2016/17



National Sports Awards will be held in KwaZulu Natal, Durban and provinces are required to host provincial awards prior to the national awards. As the Free State we will host the Free State Provincial Sport Awards in Clarens at the end of September 2016.

### **Free State O.R Tambo Marathon:**

Honourable Speaker, the Free State province is at the centre of South Africa it is therefore an ideal province to host events that attract participants and spectators from all over South Africa and the world. On the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2016 we will host the Free State O.R. Tambo Marathon as a premium event on the annual sporting calendar. On this day we will stage a 42.2 KM, 21.1 KM and 10 KM marathon dedicated to the stalwart of our liberation struggle. We are confident that all runners from across the country and international level will heed the call and come and participate in this inaugural event. The winner of both male and female category for the 42.2 KM will each receive R350 000. The total prizes amount to over R1.6 Million. This marathon is the second largest marathon in the country after the legendary Comrade's Marathon.

### **Boxing promotion and Development:**

The department has employed professional boxers, Doctor Ntsele and Motswake Moselesele, to ensure that they are fully prepared for title fights in their respective divisions in order to make the Free State a winning province. In 2016/17 the department will support two professional boxing tournaments to ensure that a platform is created for our professional boxers to excell. The department will also place much emphasis on the development and support of amateur boxing in the province.

## **High Performance Services:**

Honourable Speaker, we are proud to announce that the Free State Sport Science Institute was not only accredited as the official sport science service provider for South Africa's National Training Centre but through the "Elite Athlete and Coaching Support Programme" we were able to produce the following results in various sporting codes for the Province:

- 34 South African Champions in their respective sport codes
- 1 South African Team Champion in the Free State Crinums Netball
- 2 Zone 6 Champions
- 3 Gold Medals at the All Africa Games
- 3 Silver Medals at the All Africa Games
- 57 Free State athletes represented the SA Teams at various tournaments
- 3 Athletes from rugby and netball was selected to play for International teams and clubs.

Through the FSSSI, we have also declared this year as the year for "Training for Sport Excellence Programme". Through this programme we have trained 1 442 athletes and 335 coaches on all the levels of the Sport Continuum on various applied sport science topics.

Through the "Sport Science Fitness Programme" the department has trained 40 school sport teachers and coaches on how to improve their athletes and teams' fitness levels without expensive gymnasium equipment or physical gymnasium facilities.

It is a known fact that athletes' safety when utilizing commercial sport nutritional supplements cannot be guaranteed. Consequently, through the

FSSSI we have started a few years back with the development of own range of sport nutritional supplements.

With the accreditation of the FSSSI as the official service provider to the South Africa's National Training Center, we have re-developed the online booking service of FSSSI so that all accredited SASCOC and SRSA clients can utilize the Free State Sport Science Institute's services and programmes.

We will continue to render High Performance Sport Science Services to 15 Sport Federations, their 300 selected "gold winner" athletes and implement Sport Science Fitness and High Performance Capacity Team Preparation Programmes.

### **Infrastructure Projects:**

One of the massive infrastructure projects that we have undertaken relates to stadium upgrades and construction and the following milestones were achieved:

- The Dr. Rantlai Petrus Molemela stadium was officially re-opened and also coincided with the renaming on 21 October 2015 after undergoing an extensive upgrade.
- We have also opened the newly-built Siphon Mutsi Indoor Sport Centre in Kutlwanong, Odendaalsrus on 11 December 2015 which is named after a hero of the liberation struggle who was brutally killed at a tender age by the security forces during the height of the liberation struggle.

We will also be opening the following facilities:

- Master Nakedi Indoor Sport Centre in Tumahole

- Dr Cingo Outdoor Sport Court, and
- Nyakallong Outdoor Sport Court.

These facilities will provide opportunities for our communities to take part in sport programmes and live a healthy lifestyle and we hope future champions will come from the programmes that will be implemented at these facilities and represent team South Africa in future competitions.

In the next financial year, the following infrastructure projects will be rolled out:

- We are currently in the planning stage for the upgrading of four other stadia, namely Zuka Baloyi in Thabong (Welkom), Siphon Mutsi in Kutlwanong (Odendaalsrus), ZR Mahabane in Maokeng (Kroonstad), Zamdela in Sasolburg and Reitz stadium in Reitz.
- Also, in 2016/17, we will construct an Outdoor Sport Court in Thandanani.
- As per EXCO resolutions, we will construct the new swimming pool at the Master Nakedi Indoor Sport Precinct over the MTEF.
- We are continuing with the design and implementation of the National Training Centre (NTC).

Speaker, over and above these projects, there is a need to work together with municipalities to ensure that the 15% of MIG is used to upgrade or construct new sport facilities within their communities.

## **CONCLUSION:**

Honourable Speaker, allow me to take this opportunity to congratulate Kabelo Motsamai (otherwise known as Prince Kaybee) for winning the Best Dance

Album award at the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the Metro FM Awards (MMAs) that were held in Durban on 27 February 2016. Prince Kaybee is a Free State-born house DJ and producer. He was among the few nominees who dominated the list of nominees in the 2016 Metro Music Awards, winning “The Best Newcomer Category”. The Department supported Prince Kaybee’s promotion campaign for the Metro Awards.

Two other artists from the Free State who were nominated for the Metro Awards are Thiwe Mbola – born and bred in Theunissen Free State, and Malehloka Hlalele (otherwise known as Maleh). We congratulate these two outstanding artists as well and we regard them as winners for being nominated in such prestigious awards.

I also wish to congratulate Wayde van Niekerk for winning three awards at the 2015 SA Sport Awards held in Bloemfontein. He won Sportsman of the Year, People’s Choice, and Sports Star of the Year awards. He also walked away with two Mercedes Benz C-class cars. Wayde is a product of the Free State having been brewed at the NTC. We also congratulate the Crinums Netball team for winning the netball league two years in a row.

Honourable Speaker, may I take this opportunity to thank Honourable Premier Ace Magashule for his leadership and support let alone his teachings that as members of the executive we need to work as a collective and support each other.

I further take this opportunity to thank my colleagues in the legislature and all our stakeholders and communities of the Free State who continue to march with us in this path for radical transformation. A special word of thanks to the Head of Department: Advocate Malakoane, Senior Management and all staff at

the department for continuing to achieve more with less and making this department a force to be reckoned with.

In conclusion allow me to conclude by quoting Che Guevara, when emphasising the need for teamwork and unity to succeed in serving our people, and I quote\_“*The desire to sacrifice an entire lifetime to the noblest of ideals serves no purpose if one works alone*”. unquote.

I thank you.