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Department:
Roads and Public Works
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA RESPONSE

SUBJECT: DA ENQUIRY: STATUS OF THE NC ROADS IN THE PROVINCE ROADS

DATE: 20 July 2016

Infrastructure investment is a key priority of the National Development Plan. The department intensified its efforts on paved roads the past four years by investing nearly R 1 billion on the reseal of roads that gave us an output of 886 kilometers. This can be reflected in the overall condition of provincial paved roads that has improved from 58% in 2012, to 69% in 2014, to 70% in 2016 which is only 5% less than the ultimate goal.

The department is a key role player in the upgrading of the road that leads to the SKA site (situated outside Carnarvon) In joint venture with SKA, a total of 86 kilometers are currently upgraded. We also upgraded the gravel road to a tar road from Britstown to Vosburg to Carnarvon.

For this financial year we already commenced with the reseal of the Van der Kloof Dam Trunk road, Koffiefontein junction to Phillipstown, and Phillipstown to De Aar in the Pixley ka Seme District.

We have completed the rehabilitation of the Theekloofpass and are currently in negotiation with the Western Cape Provincial Government regarding the reseal of the road from the Western Cape border to Victoria West.

The Department sent a team of engineers to the Douglas-Campbell Road and we realised that in terms of the road construction that the material used have not responded accordingly.

In general roads projects are selected based on the computerised pavement management system (PMS). PMS refers to a systematic method of information collection and decision making support to permit the optimisation of resources for the maintenance, rehabilitation and the construction of new pavements, generating a programme of works and corresponding budget which match a defined level of service.

Knowledge is obtained through various condition surveys of the road network. One of the main objectives during these surveys is to capture the information in as short a time span as possible, thus eliminating any adverse environmental and traffic loading influences. This has resulted in the Department of Roads and Public Works utilise external engineers for the data acquisition with the latest available international technology.

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