

The year 2019 marked the beginning of the 6th administration a new dawn for the people of our country and province. This is the year themed "Thuma Mina" by President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa. The President's theme is a clarion call for both public servants and pubic representatives to become agents of change. As public servants I'm calling on you to respond to the call of the President, serve the people with pride and dignity sparing no effort, with the view of changing the lives of the masses of our people. Since we started in this Department in June this year, what became our

started in this Department in June this year, what became our preoccupation was the desire to improve the lives of our poverty stricken people through Agriculture and land reform.

I'm acutely aware of the huge task lying ahead of all of us, however, I have absolutely no doubt that working together we should be able to achieve our set goals and realistic targets. I'm quite confident that men and women of this Department have the requisite skills, experience and drive to deliver on our responsibilities. Failure is not an option.

Many of you will be taking leave going to rest with your loved ones. As a matter of fact, you are all encouraged to take time off and spend it with you loved ones. I hope that you will use the holiday season to rest and accumulate necessary energy so that when you return, together we take Agriculture forward.

I am immensely proud of each one of you of the many achievements we have recorded this year. We made national headlines for all the right reasons, launched state of the art Agriculture projects and generally we performed very well. I hold each one of you in high regard and I hope when you return with more energy and determination we indeed shall deliver to the masses of our people. I'm calling on all of you together with your loved ones to be safe this festive season. Each one of us must return in one piece.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

