



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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AN UNCONVENTIONAL HOUSE HANDED TO GOGO MUTILENI

-An approach set to revolutionise the construction sector -

In the age of the fourth industrial revolution, technology has to be embraced and use it as a tool to improve people's lives for the better. This is view made by MEC for Human Settlements, Norah Mahlangu during the handing over of fully furnished Innovative Build Technology (IBT) house to Lisbeth Mutileni (77) at the weekend (03 May 2019) from Dikgwale B, Dr JS Moroka in Mpumalanga, who has been living in a corrugated iron structure for the most part of her life.

This type of the house is not built with the normal brick and mortar (traditional form of building), but steel and concrete which makes it stronger and durable. Alluding to the advantages of the house MEC Norah Mahlangu described it as energy efficient, cost effective. "This type of building using technology is more energy efficient as it uses less electricity. It reduces hot weather, cooler and warmer inside in cold weather, thus the occupant does not need air conditioner", charged MEC Mahlangu. She further asserted that it takes less time to complete this type of the house. It also has 50 years estimated life span with less maintenance, which makes it cost effective with value for money.

Reacting to the receipt of keys to her house, the ailing Gogo Mutileni who lives with her two school-going granddaughters could not hold her tears as she appreciated and thanked MEC Mahlangu for changing her life. "This is a dream come true, I am grateful for this house. This house will surely improve my health and impact positively on my grandchildren's education", said Gogo Mutileni. Gogo Mutileni was identified through the involvement of the Municipality and local leadership structures.

The house was built by the National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC) as part of IBT pilot project and to raise the level of construction industrialization, especially housing delivery in South Africa. The objectives of this project is to diminish the myth that IBT houses are sub-standard. It further raises awareness and educates builders and homeowners about this initiative. The NHBRC will also be embarking on wide scale on training of contractors and developers on IBT house construction throughout the country.

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