

Modise condemns rape of hitch-hiker

North West Premier Thandi Modise has called on the public to come forward with information that could lead to the arrest of six alleged rapists following the alleged rape of a 33-year-old man.

Modise condemned the rape of the 33-year-old hitchhiker who was allegedly gang-raped by six men.

"Rape has reached alarming and unacceptable levels and calls for united action therefore real men need to stand up to be counted against sexual violence which cuts across race, gender and class," said the Premier on Saturday.

According to police, the man was hitchhiking from Rustenburg to Kroondal on his way from work when a white Toyota Hilux with six male occupants stopped to offer him a lift at around 1700 on Thursday afternoon.

It is alleged that along the way the suspects demanded the victim's wallet with the intention to rob him but found it empty. Instead of stopping at Mooi-nooi where the man was supposed to get off, the suspects supposedly drove into nearby bushes where they allegedly injected the victim with an unknown drug.

The suspects are said to have put a plastic bag on the victim's head and took turns raping him before leaving him in the bushes.

Modise appealed to member of the community who could have witnessed the incident to come forward with information that might help police in their investigations.

The man was taken to Job Shimakana Provincial Hospital.