The Martin Government is continuing with its program of upgrading Territory schools which were left to run down over 27 years of successive CLP Governments, Minister for Employment, Education and Training Syd Stirling said today.

“For example, we are in the process of upgrading both Alawa and Nakara primary schools in Darwin.

“Both of these schools were built after Cyclone Tracy and are at least 30 years old, yet neither of them have been upgraded since that time.

“In their last term under Denis Burke, the CLP managed to build two schools – Bakewell Primary School and Girraween Primary School – and refurbish one – Stuart Park Primary School.

“That’s all they achieved in four years from 1998 to 2001.

“Their claims that they will build a school a year in Government are unbelievable considering Denis Burke’s track record.”

“In contrast, the Martin Government has undertaken the following major upgrades at schools since 2001:

- $1.25 million upgrade at Leanyer Primary School
- $1.27 million to upgrade air conditioning at Alice Springs High School
- $2.1 million to build a multi-purpose hall at Nhulunbuy High School
- $2.24 million for Stage One and $3.97 million for Stage Two of a major upgrade at Parap Primary School
- $2 million to upgrade Maningrida School in two stages
- $1 million to upgrade Papunya School
- $1 million to build a secondary education facility at Kalkaringi School
- $1 million to build a secondary education facility at Minyerri School

Works currently underway includes:

- $8 million for the first stage of a major upgrade at Darwin High School
- $1 million for upgrades to Shepherdson College on Elcho Island
- Stage One redevelopment of Alawa Primary School
- Stage One redevelopment of Nakara Primary School
- $850,000 to upgrade Manyallaluk School
- $1.8 million to construct a new school at Emu Point

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