



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY SAFE

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Awareness on gender-based violence and femicide

By Livhuwani Todani: GCIS, Mpumalanga



Various stakeholders marching and demonstrating at the Waterval Boven N4 road intersection.

Nkangala Men's Sector, Ithemba Victim Support, Emakhazeni Victim Empowerment, Emakhazeni Municipal Speaker, Councillor Nomhle Mashele, in collaboration with the Government Communication Information and System, conducted a gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF) march at the Waterval Boven N4 road intersection on 4 September 2020.

There is a high number of GBV cases in Waterval Boven and majority of the victims are students from Nkangala TVET College's Waterval Boven Campus. The students live in fear of being possible victims as most cases go unreported or unsolved when reported.

The Nkangala District Men's Forum chairperson Cassim Fakude said, "It is worrying that the conviction rate in many of the reported cases is low, some of the cases are not thoroughly investigated and the suspected perpetrators are seen roaming around the streets."

The march was organised to raise awareness about GBVF and prioritisation of related cases by law-enforcement agencies and the justice system. Various information leaflets were distributed to motorist and community members. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Gender-Based Violence Command Centre toll-free number: 0800 428 428, to speak to a social worker for assistance and counselling.



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Mduzuzi Mathabela said:
“Women are being abused by men. So, I encourage all men to come together and fight gender-based violence and femicide in our communities.”



Cassim Fakude said:
“As men’s forum, we are saying those men who are abusing women and children, are not doing it in our name. We want to encourage all men and women to refrain from any form of gender-based violence and femicide.”

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

COVID-19 school awareness

By Kaone Lekgetho: GCIS, North West



DP Kgotleng Primary School learners observing COVID-19 protocols.



COVID-19 poster by at DP Kgotleng Primary School.

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) visited DP Kgotleng Primary School on 24 August 2020 to raise awareness about COVID-19 through the distribution of information material and also to observe and profile COVID-19 protocols that are being followed to curb the spread of the virus at the school.

The school has two screeners in place and an additional screener was sought. Learners and teachers are screened every day before entering the school and also ensure that all people have their face masks on. The GCIS distributed 300 coronavirus leaflets to learners and one poster was placed at the school for awareness.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Premier visits hospital

By Thenjiwe Konono: GCIS, Northern Cape



Northern Cape Premier Zamani Saul with Manne Dipico Hospital CEO Daniel Sebesho during the walkabout.



Premier Zamani Saul engaging with a patient at Manne Dipico Hospital.

Northern Cape Premier Zamani Saul visited Manne Dipico Hospital in Colesberg on 24 August 2020, to assess the hospital's response to COVID-19 infections in the area. The visit follows the Premier's commitment to monitor all hospitals across the province with the purpose of championing the fight for quality healthcare services for the residents.

During his walkabout at the hospital, the Premier had the opportunity to view the new COVID-19 Ward, which was fitted with ventilation machines and other medical equipment. According to management, the unit was ready for possible COVID-19 cases, should the province reach its peak in the upcoming weeks.

Premier Saul also engaged staff, patients and union representatives during his visit. He expressed his appreciation to both the management and union for good working relations as this was a noble foundation for ensuring that they deliver decent quality healthcare services to the people.

PRIORITY 2: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Deputy Minister monitors COVID-19 compliance

By Cholo Mothibi and Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State



Deputy Minister Thambi Siweya and MEC Sam Mashinini during the visit at the Bloemfontein Magistrate Court.



Deputy Minister Thambi Siweya and other government leaders monitoring the work done by Letsweg Cooperative and INMED Aquaponics.

The Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Thambi Siweya, undertook a monitoring visit to the Free State on 27 and 28 August 2020 respectively. The Deputy Minister started by visiting the Bloemfontein Magistrate Court, where, together with the MEC for Police, Roads and Transport, Sam Mashinini, assessed the impact of COVID-19 on service delivery.

The court management gave the presentation on court performance with focus on sexual offences and child maintenance office. Deputy Minister Siweya identified the infrastructure and structural challenges, which have the potential to hamper efficiency in service delivery.

The Deputy Minister then pointed out the need for the court to review its structures to accommodate more intermediaries to support victims of gender-based violence when they testify at dedicated sexual offences courts. The presentations was later followed by the walkabout around the court and both Deputy Minister Siweya and MEC Mashinini were pleased with the court's level of compliance to COVID-19 regulations.

On 28 August, the Deputy Minister then visited Letsweg Cooperative in Maokeng, accompanied by the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, William Bulwane and the Executive Mayor of Moqhaka Local Municipality, Justice Mareka. The cooperative does aquaponics agriculture, funded by INMED Aquaponics.

The Deputy Minister's visit was to monitor the recovery and how the centre operates during COVID-19 as most of the staff members are people with disabilities and comorbidities, and this makes them vulnerable to the virus. The Deputy Minister provided words of encouragement to the centre and advised on how it can adopt to the new normal.

Ntswaki Tolo, the centre manager, said they lost lots of fish during the lockdown and experienced vandalism as they do not have security in the centre. She said they also had to close the centre due to the virus because most of the workers in the centre have chronic illnesses. Unathi Sehlhla, INMED Aquaponics manager, said that aquaponics agriculture helps to ensure sustainable food security in South Africa.