



MYDISTRICTTODAY



A **NATION** THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL

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PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

North West pre-SoNA taxi rank activations

By Thulaganyo Gaserotse; GCIS, North West

On 30 January 2026, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) conducted coordinated taxi-rank activations across all districts in the North West. The activations were a collaboration between GCIS, the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA), Community Development Workers (CDWs) and the taxi rank association ahead of the State of the Nation Address (SoNA). The activations aimed to raise awareness on the SoNA, to which the public responded positively.

During the engagements, other commuters raised the challenges they faced daily, and urged the President to address the country's immigration and unemployment challenges. They also indicated that the President should address the state of public hospitals and other critical infrastructure.

SoNA, gender-based violence and femicide and anti-corruption leaflets, along with GCIS booklets were distributed to commuters.



Mr Rapelang Motlagomang from the GCIS, together with CoGTA and CDWs at the Klerksdorp taxi rank.



GCIS official, Ms Karabo Diale, distributing SoNA leaflets to commuters at the Mafikeng taxi rank.



The Rustenburg community receives information leaflets on the SoNA during a taxi-rank activation.



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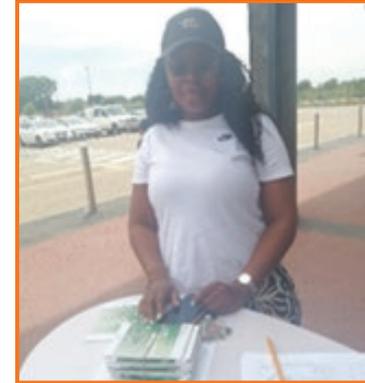
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Ms Lazarus Van Wyk:
“I would like the President to increase the unemployment grant, as it is not enough for a person with no income; for him to create more jobs for unskilled labourers and most importantly, to reduce poverty.”



Ms Boipelo Kgaswane:
“I would like the President to focus on education, because I am an educator. I would like to hear more about school safety and the use of full-time security across all school premises. Most importantly, to create more jobs to reduce poverty.”



Ms Mmamokete Seleke:
“We are tired of sitting at home doing nothing. The government must assist young people with jobs.”

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Back-to-School oversight monitoring visit

By Ntombi Mhlambi; GCIS, Free State

The Executive Mayor of Lejweleputswa District Municipality, Cllr Veronica Ntakumbana, accompanied the Deputy Minister (DM) in The Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Mr Seiso Mohai and Cllr Mojalefa Buti, on an oversight to the Letsete Secondary and Seabo Primary Schools in Thabong, Welkom. Mr Zanemvula Dinga, Programme Director and Circuit Manager at the Department of Education in the Lejweleputswa District, facilitated the proceedings.

Cllr Ntakumbana extended a warm welcome to the DM, underscoring the pivotal role of education in shaping the nation's social dynamics. She reiterated the district's unwavering commitment to bolstering educational initiatives and expressed gratitude to the DM for his visit.

In his address, DM Mohai outlined that the objectives of his visit were to evaluate the schools' current interventions, identify next steps to address challenges affecting teaching and learning and engage with students to highlight the importance of education. He emphasised that the purpose of this visit was to understand the prevailing circumstances and to support schools in their efforts to provide quality education.

The Lejweleputswa Education District Director, Ms Phaello Zonke, delivered a comprehensive overview of the district's current educational landscape, emphasising both notable achievements and areas for improvement. Mr Elias Nkoane, the Deputy Principal of Letsete Secondary School, provided insights into the school's performance and recent developments. Key stakeholders including Absa Bank, Central University of Technology and representatives from the Congress of South African Students which represents the learners, attended the meeting to demonstrate their commitment to supporting education in the district.

In his final remarks, DM Mohai underscored the government's commitment to improving educational outcomes and urged students to pursue excellence. Meanwhile, Cllr Mojalefa Buti expressed gratitude to the School Governing Body, educators and community stakeholders for their crucial support of learners. In a noteworthy gesture, the Executive Mayor, alongside Absa Bank, donated sanitary towels to Letsete Secondary School, championing the cause of girls' education and dignity. The delegation then proceeded to Seabo Primary School, where the Principal, Mr Ntema Moopeloa, provided an overview and update on the school's performance.



DM Mohai addressing stakeholders during a briefing session.



Learners at Seabo Primary School in Welkom attending the DM's monitoring visit.



Letsete Secondary School learners attending the DM's evaluation visit.



Ms Tiyiselani Macebele:

“I wish we as citizens could have an update on the government’s plans to fight drugs and substance abuse in communities. It is disheartening to see some of the people we live with abusing drugs and substances, which leads to cases of domestic violence.”



Mr Lindelani Njiyela:

“My expectations for the SoNA are for the President to give directions on the issue of corruption involving state resources. Research shows that government corruption affects service delivery in communities. My wish is that whoever is found to be involved in corruption or any other criminal activities must be dealt with to promote peace and stability in our country.”

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

GCIS conducts pre-SoNA campaign in Cosmo City

By Moloko Segale; GCIS, Gauteng

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) launched a nationwide pre-State of the Nation Address (SoNA) campaign on 30 January 2026. The GCIS, South African Police Service (SAPS), South African National Council for Alcoholism and Drug Dependency (SANCA) and Gauteng Department of Community Safety, conducted an activation at Cosmo Mall in Cosmo City. The event aimed to promote government plans and encourage citizens to listen to and engage with the SoNA delivered on Thursday, 12 February 2026.

The campaign included outreach initiatives such as mall activations, taxi-rank and road-intersection activations, school visits, public education sessions and civic awareness campaigns. The goal is to broaden public participation and ensure citizens are informed and connected to the national discourse. The public was encouraged to share their views on what they would like the President to address during the SoNA and to engage online using the #SoNA2026 hashtag. During the SoNA, the President outlined government's programmes and focused on the current political and socio-economic state of the nation.



Community members receiving information from exhibition stalls. In the background, Warrant Officer Masekela Mokwena is engaging with a client.



Collaborative team from GCIS, SAPS, Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Brigades, SANCA and the National Credit Regulator ahead of the activation.

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Taking SoNA to the people of the Karoo

By Monique Warde; GCIS, Western Cape

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) led pre-State of the Nation Address (SoNA) taxi rank and mall activations in the Central Karoo, officially launching the programme in Beaufort West on 30 January 2026.

The pre-SoNA outreach and activations form part of government’s commitment to taking information directly to communities and encouraging meaningful public participation ahead of the SoNA, which President Cyril Ramaphosa delivered on 12 February 2026. It is of utmost importance for communities to feel empowered by participating in the national conversation.

GCIS was joined by several government departments and partner organisations, including the Western Cape Government Community Development Workers, Department of Employment and Labour, Independent Electoral Commission, Association for Persons with Disability, South African Police Service (SAPS) and the SAPS Youth Crime Prevention Desk, Chrysalis Academy, Right to Care, as well as the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness (WCDHW).

Through direct engagement at taxi ranks and shopping centres, officials shared information about the SoNA, listened to community concerns and addressed residents' questions. The platform also enabled departments to communicate their key objectives, services and ongoing projects.

Important information was shared on reporting corruption and back-to-school safety, with a focus on bullying prevention and public awareness on foot-and-mouth disease. Additional messages focused on health promotion, employment services, crime prevention and youth development initiatives.

The pre-SoNA activations reaffirm government’s commitment to inclusive communication, transparent governance and responsive service delivery; ensuring that communities in the Central Karoo remain informed, engaged and actively involved in shaping South Africa’s future.



GCIS pre-SoNA activation kicks off.



Government departments exhibiting at the activation.



A professional nurse from the WCDHW conducting health checks on local community members at the activation.



Community members with SoNA flyers.



Mr Maans Abbakedus:

“No, I don't watch SoNA because I don't watch TV. In the Rastafarian community, we want the President to view the community as a whole. Although we are a government in our own right, we are part of this country. We want cannabis to be legalised and Rastafarianism to be independent, and we want equal services within our community for our community. We also want the President to acknowledge and demonstrate support for all street people – the lack of support for brothers and sisters who find themselves on our streets is appalling. To revamp and reshuffle government officials and ensure that they are working to earn their salaries. I would end the freeloading mentality of some and re-install some of that pride in serving. I feel we are heading to tribal and class wars. I want the standard of living to improve for all citizens in South Africa, including my community.”