



**MY DISTRICT TODAY**



**STAY SAFE**

**PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA**

**TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS**

Issue no. 8: March 2021

### CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

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## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### COVID-19 vaccine arrives in Lejweleputswa

By Ntombi Mhlambi: GCIS, Free State



Healthcare workers waiting to be vaccinated at Bongani Hospital.



A healthcare worker being vaccinated.



**Teki Mgwandi said:**  
"I was very anxious. I am glad I was vaccinated as I saw what this virus did and continue to do to our families and communities. I had no choice but to protect myself."

South Africa rolled out its COVID-19 vaccine programme as one of the ways in fighting the spread of the virus in the country. The vaccination started in Lejweleputswa, at Bongani Hospital on 3 March 2021.

Healthcare workers who registered on the Electronic Vaccination Data System (EVDS) were vaccinated. According to the Head of Nursing at Bongani Hospital, Jack Radebe, 94 healthcare workers were confirmed to be vaccinated on the day. The vaccination progressed in different time slots to avoid overcrowding.

Radebe encouraged more healthcare workers to register on the system as they use it as a monitoring tool. All workers (public and private) who intend to be vaccinated in Phase I should enrol on the EVDS through the link: <http://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/>.

Teki Mgwandi, a professional nurse at Bongani Hospital, was the first official to be vaccinated in Lejweleputswa.



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**PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.**

**Gibela-Prasa plant boosts economy**

*By Jacob Molete: GCIS, Gauteng*



Government leaders and stakeholders during the tour of Gibela-Prasa Train Manufacturing Plant.

Gauteng Premier David Makhura together with Transport Deputy Minister Dikeledi Magadzi, Trade and Industry Deputy Minister Fikile Majola, Gauteng Economic Development MEC Parks Tau, and City of Ekurhuleni Executive Mayor Mzwandile Masina visited Gibela-Prasa train manufacturing factory in Dunnottar, Nigel on 3 March 2021.

The purpose of this visit was to monitor and check progress of Gauteng City Region manufacturing capability and re-industrialisation as part of economic recovery plan of the province.

“Today’s visit highlight progress on local manufacturing capacity and reindustrialising Gauteng and the City of Ekurhuleni; and boosting manufacturing capacity of the Gauteng City Region as the key driver of Africa’s industrialisation agenda,” said Premier Makhura.

Executive Mayor Masina said, “The presence of the advanced manufacturing plant, stimulates the city’s manufacturing capability, ensures revenue collection through rates and taxes, and improves socio-economic development of communities within the City of Ekurhuleni.”



Dignitaries taking a train ride on Gibela-Prasa Train testing track.

Train car assembly at Gibela-Prasa Train Manufacturing facility has a profound impact in developing Gauteng’s manufacturing capacity and significantly contribute to job creation.

Since its launch in 2018, the plant has created a total of 5 129 jobs, trained 2 540 people through its skills development programme and benefitted 3 620 community members from its local upliftment programmes.

The factory is also an important part of the provincial government’s economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan to support high-growth priority sectors that will unlock the transformation, modernisation and re-industrialisation of the different districts and corridors of Gauteng.



**Mogomotsi Viyuyi said:**

"I consider myself lucky to be employed in a modern and advanced factory we have here at Gibela-Prasa Train Manufacturing Plant."



**Thokozile Khumalo said:**

"I am proud that when people board the train I can say I have a hand in ensuring the train underframe is steady and can carry the train and the people safely to its destination."



**Kgomotso Mokoena and Khanyisile Khoza said:**

"We are grateful for the skill and ability to work here as operators at train underframe assembly in Gibela-Prasa Train Manufacturing Plant."

## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### Harry Gwala vaccine awareness campaign

By Mthunzi Mkhungo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal



Law-enforcement officials educating Harry Gwala residents of COVID-19 regulations and handing over some key pamphlets.

The Harry Gwala District and civil society embarked on a COVID-19 and vaccination awareness programme on 23 February 2021. This was a response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 second wave and to create awareness about government’s vaccination roll-out.

Various stakeholders navigated different parts of the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Local Municipality, such as Donnybrook, Creighton, Nkwezela, Bulwer and Himville.

They emphasised the importance of sticking to COVID-19 regulations as the late Minister Jackson Mthembu, who was the District Champion

had encouraged the citizens of the district to follow government advice when it comes to dealing with COVID-19.

Engaging with community members, the Government Communication and Information System ascertained the willingness from the people to take the vaccine when their turn to be vaccinated comes. Some people indicated that government needs to conduct lot of education around vaccine, as there were fake news peddlers trying to discourage the uptake of COVID-19 vaccine.



**Albertina Mbhele said:**

“We have been told about COVID-19 and I think the information is immensely shared enough by government. I am more than willing to take COVID-19 vaccine when it arrives. By the way we have been vaccinated

before for other diseases and for that we have never had any problems. People who associate COVID-19 vaccine with anything are just misleading the nation and are equally to the anti-change agents who seek nothing but to see us all dead.”



**Zwelithini Hlongwane said:**

“We are told that COVID-19 is dangerous, can be transmitted easily and it can cause serious illness or even death. We have seen lot of people dying after contracting this virus. I will take the COVID-19 vaccine because I have witnessed

the damage it has caused in our communities.”



**Samkelo Mbanjwa said:**

“I know COVID-19 because it has affected or infected a lot of people I know. Some have lost their lives and it is sad. When the vaccine arrives I am willing to take it because that is the only thing I think that will assist in stopping the spread of the virus.”

## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Tackling poverty and unemployment

By Maria Ramoshaba: GCIS, Limpopo



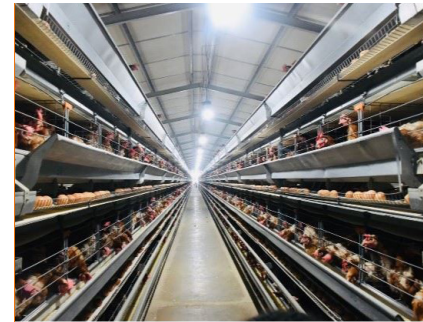
**Agnes Masidi said:**  
 "I started working here in August 2015. I am a team leader for women. My responsibilities include ensuring that egg houses are well cleaned, and that eggs from all four houses are collected, recorded and a production list is submitted to the office. I have learnt many skills such as vaccination, how to take blood samples and chicken weight."



**Phanuel Mphela said:**  
 "Hard work, commitment and dedication pays. We thank government for the support."



Grading and sorting of eggs at Bela Bela CPA.



Egg-layers inside the eggplant at Bela Bela CPA.



Bela Bela CPA CEO Lefa Mabuela addressing the media.

The Bela Bela Communal Property Association (CPA) is situated at Farm Skuil under Bela Bela Local Municipality in Limpopo. It boasts an eggplant with 15 200 egg-layers that produces about 14 700 eggs in a day. The eggs are sold to retail outlets around the country.

Bela Bela CPA started in November 2013 following a lodged land claim by the late Andries Mabuela. He lodged the land claim on 23 April 1998 and it was gazetted on 7 November 2003. The land claimed included part of the well-known Mabalangwe and Mabula game reserves.

The CPA has four eggs house layers with equipment shipped from Netherlands and employes 10 women and five men.

Due to their dedication and commitments, they have won the Best Governed Rural Development Project after AgriSETA's Land Reform Intervention (2015), Vumelana (2016) and Best Entrepreneur Awards in 2019. The awards were meant to reward good corporate governance practices by communal land holding entities.

During the visit by the Government Communication and Information System to the CPA on 5 March 2021, Lefa Mabuela, CEO of the Bela Bela CPA indicated that COVID-19 took its toll on their initiative as they lost clients and their sales dropped.

"We are working hard to sustain the business", he said.

The CPA has partnership with the University of Venda where their final year students in the Department of Animal Science visits the farm and get exposed to the day-to-day work environment in agricultural sectors and industries.

The CPA also benefit from the Poultry Master Plan, which was signed in 2019 during the second inaugural South African Investment Conference in Johannesburg.