



MYDISTRICTTODAY



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PRIORITY 3: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Limpopo Department of Health hosts successful World TB Day commemoration

By Mokgoma Nkopodi; GCIS, Limpopo

On 20 March 2025, the Department of Health (DoH) in Limpopo, partnered with the Sekhukhune District Municipality and Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality to observe World Tuberculosis (TB) Day at the Peter Nchabeleng Sports Complex in Kotsiri village. Limpopo Member of the Executive Committee (MEC) for Health, Ms Dieketseng Mashego, delivered a keynote address on behalf of the Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, in which she indicated that South Africa remained one of the countries with the highest TB burden, and while progress had been made, the country was not yet on track to meet government's goal to end the disease. "During the 2023/24 financial year, we initiated treatment for over 13 000 TB patients. The responsibility to end TB does not rest solely on government or healthcare professionals; it is a shared duty," said MEC Mashego.

Kgoshigadi Nkweng Seopela, the Provincial Chairperson of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa, pleaded with the DoH to give more support to health workers, as most of them worked under very difficult conditions. The commemoration, observed under the theme: "Yes, you and I can end TB! Commit, invest, deliver", attracted a number of stakeholders including the departments of Transport and Community Safety, Agriculture, Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Social Development, South African Police Service and other local municipalities within the district.

In conclusion, MEC Mashego stressed that the theme was not just a slogan, but a call to action for all South Africans. The Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, Cllr Merah Mahlase, thanked the DoH for choosing their province to host the commemoration.



MEC Mashego delivering the keynote address during the World TB Day commemoration event.



Cllr Minah Bahula during the World TB Day commemoration event.



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Exhibition stalls where TB screenings were conducted.



Community members in attendance.



Kgoshigadi Mashegwane urged the DoH to improve health services and ensure that nurses took proper care of patients.



Pastor Phineas Maredi from Schoonoord, encouraging attendees to pray for health workers.

PRIORITY 1: INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

Deputy Minister visits schools around Saldanha to strengthen partnerships

By Esmarelda Mckay; GCIS, Western Cape

As part of efforts to interact with local schools and fulfill their educational needs, Deputy Minister in The Presidency, Ms Nonceba Mhlauli, visited Middelpos Primary School and Diazville High School, located in the Saldanha Bay Local Municipality. This visit was a collaboration between The Presidency, Transnet and Kula Kula Transport, with a strong focus on empowering learners through community-driven initiatives.

The visit was not only a chance for the Deputy Minister to engage with educators and learners, but also to highlight the importance of stakeholder engagement in addressing challenges facing the education sector. The initiative highlighted the positive impact that social partnerships can have on improving the overall learning environment. One of the key highlights of the visit was the generous donation of dignity packs by Kula Kula Transport. These packs, which contained essential hygiene and personal care items, were distributed to learners as part of an ongoing effort to promote health, dignity and well-being among students, particularly those from disadvantaged communities.

In her address to the learners, Deputy Minister Mhlauli emphasised the significance of education as a means of personal empowerment and national development. She expressed her appreciation for the partnerships formed between government and private sector organisations, which played a crucial role in supporting the education system. "Education is the foundation of a prosperous future, and it

is through collaborations like this that we can ensure that our young people have the tools they need to succeed," she said. The partnership with Transnet demonstrated the importance of infrastructure development in supporting education. By working together, government, Transnet and other social partners endeavour to enhance the learning experience by ensuring that students have access to safe, well-equipped facilities.

Learners from both schools visited by the Deputy Minister, expressed their gratitude for the donations and the visit, with many noting how such initiatives made a significant difference in their daily lives and academic journeys. The event not only showcased the positive impact of corporate social responsibility, but also reaffirmed the importance of continuous dialogue between stakeholders in the education sector. The Deputy Minister's visit to Saldanha underscores government's commitment of fostering partnerships to drive positive change in education. By continuing to engage with the public and private sectors, the government is creating pathways for future generations to thrive, ensuring that education remains a priority across all communities.

The Deputy Minister's visit highlighted the crucial role of stakeholders in shaping the future of education and how collaborative efforts can create a supportive and empowering environment for learners to succeed.



Ms Nomnikelo Gaika, Circuit Manager from the Western Cape Department of Education, giving a message of support to the Deputy Minister and her team.



Deputy Minister Mhlauli addressing the learners of Middelpos Primary School.



Deputy Minister Mhlauli addressing the learners of Diazville High School.

PRIORITY 3: A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Premier takes services to the people during Human Rights Month

By Lebogang Molebatsi; GCIS, Free State

On 20 March 2025, as part of Human Rights Month commemorations, the Free State Office of the Premier hosted Thusong Service Centre integrated government services in partnership with the departments of Home Affairs, Human Settlements, Small Enterprise Development Agency and the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) among others, to provide essential government services at the Makeleketla Community Hall in Winburg.

Free State Premier, Ms MaQueen Letsoha-Mathae, initiated a programme to deliver unified government services and enhance accessibility of those services to the Makeleketla community and surrounding areas. Community members came in large numbers to access healthcare services, social grants, identity documents (IDs) and register for Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) houses. During the visit, the Premier interacted with community members and listened to their challenges. Human Rights Day is celebrated annually on 21 March in remembrance of the victims of the 1960 Sharpeville Massacre.



Premier Letsoha-Mathae assuring an elderly woman who registered for an RDP house, that she would be assisted.



Some pensioners from Makeleketla came for healthcare services.



Community members queuing for new IDs and birth certificates.



SASSA officials assisted community members to register for different social grants.

PRIORITY 1: INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND JOB CREATION.

EPWP continues to play vital role in service delivery

By Lececia Prins; GCIS, Northern Cape

The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Mr Dean McPherson, held the Northern Cape (NC) leg of a listening tour with Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) beneficiaries in Upington at the NCR Technical and Vocational Education and Training College Upington Campus, ZF Mgcawu District.

During his opening remarks, Minister McPherson said, “Through the EPWP listening tours we have already held, it is clear that the EPWP programme is a vital tool in the state's arsenal to address the plight of poverty in many communities. At the same time, the EPWP programme plays an important role in improving service delivery through road repairs, grass cutting and street cleaning.” He further said that there were simply too many allegations of political patronage and corruption within the programme for it to continue without intervention.

Participants in this programme used the opportunity to voice their concerns, among others, allegations of political interference, nepotism and the mismanagement of resources. Community members expressed frustration over the low stipends provided, allegations of people being required to present political party membership cards to access opportunities and the participation of the same individuals in the programme.

In his closing remarks, Minister McPherson said, “I know that for our vision to succeed, we will need a political champion who drives this reform process forward. And you have my full commitment that I am determined to be that champion. As a department, we will not rest until we have attended to the concerns you raised here today. It is time to turn a new page on the EPWP and build it into something communities can be proud of. The days of abuse within the EPWP will come to an end.”



Minister McPherson; NC Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform, Ms Mase Manopole; and Speaker of the ZF Mgawu District Municipality, Mr Stanley Peterson at the listening tour in Upington.



Residents came in numbers to the listening session to ensure that their voices were heard.



Exhibition stalls at the listening tour.



MEC for Roads and Public Works in the NC, Ms Fufe Makatong, introducing the Minister.



Minister Maphahane said:

“We are in Uptington to interact with the community around the work we want to do in reforming EPWP to become bigger and better than it is. Over the last 20 years, we have done wonderful work to provide temporary and poverty alleviation to millions of people around South Africa. We think it is time to take it to the next level, so we are embarking on a tour around the country to listen and hear directly from the communities what is working and what is not and what we can do better. I truly believe that the answer to some of the problems lies in the communities.”



Ms Lisa Links, a community member said:

“I appreciate and am happy with the Minister's visit. I hope he will come back with a response, since he promised to attend to the concerns raised and provide feedback.”