



MYDISTRICTTODAY



**STAY
SAFE**

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

EASTERN CAPE

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FREE STATE

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PRIORITY 5: SPATIAL INTEGRATION, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

SoNA discussions at Kumkani FM

By Tabita Ngqunge and Liyabona Mngeni: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Government Communication and Information System in collaboration with the Buffalo City Metro Municipality held a community radio programme in the form of the State of the Nation Address on-air panel discussions through Kumkani FM in the Eastern Cape, on 10 February 2022.

The following organisations were featured for the panel discussions; Investment Promotion and Tourism Development, Department of Employment and Labour, Afesis Coplan, Trade and Investment- Eastern Cape Development Corporation and the Independent Political Analyst from Billionaire Apprentice.

The highlights on the reflections by the panelists focused mainly on previous government commitments on economic reconstruction and recovery.

The panelists provided an outline, as relayed by President Cyril Ramaphosa, measures that government will undertake to kick start the economy through a social compact on economic growth, job creation, fight poverty and end hunger.

Mandisi Mrwebi, an independent political analyst touched on the President's commitment to deal with the red tape that affects small businesses to access funding, business and operational.

All stakeholders of the panel were given an opportunity to share their programmes and services and citizens were provided with an opportunity to call in, engage and interact with the panelists.

Some citizens were concerned about how these economic development opportunities will be implemented as some municipalities face service-delivery issues and allegations of corruption and poor service delivery.

Citizens are once again reminded to report corruption through the Anti-Corruption Hotline: 0800 701 701 or sent an email to Integrity@publicservicecorruptionhotline.org.za.



Panelists reflecting on the State of the Nation Address at Kumkani FM.



**government
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COVID-19 vaccine registration details for 12-year-olds and above:

Online at:
<https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/>
Send the word **REGISTER** to 0600 123 456 on WhatsApp.
Via SMS by dialling *134*832#.
Call the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 999.

PRIORITY 1: BUILDING A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Community members urged to be counted

By Sikelela Zokufa: GCIS, Western Cape

The Government Communication and Information System and the Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducted a census outreach campaign, led by the Minister in The Presidency, Mondli Gungubele, and Deputy Ministers Pinky Kekana and Thembi Siweya from 7 to 10 February 2022 in the Western Cape.

All people living in South Africa, including children, babies, homeless people and foreign nationals are counted.

This is the fourth post-democracy population count, which will be used to compile a numerical profile of South Africa, and guide policy formulation and evidence-based decision making for a more responsive long-term planning.

Areas that were visited included Paarl, Mitchells Plain, Khayelitsha, Nyanga, and Delft, where community members were engaged and provided with the information material.

The outreach activities were also used to monitor government service delivery.

During a campaign in Delft, Deputy Minister Kekana visited the new housing development under the N2 gateway project to see the residential arrangements. The Deputy Minister met with a group of community members who raised their frustrations regarding service delivery and employment.

Deputy Minister Kekana responded to some of the issues and further encouraged community members to be counted for the government to plan better.

Government calls on citizens and all who live in the country to participate in Census 2022, which will end in March 2022.

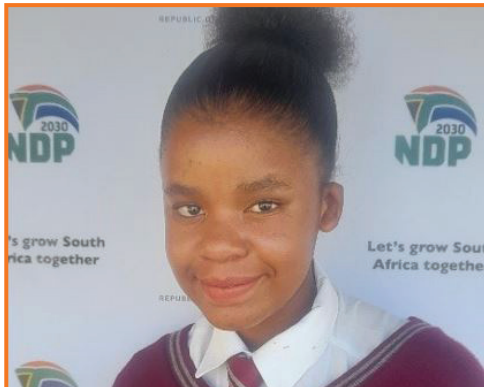
All fieldworkers visiting households will have a Stats SA identity card displaying the Stats SA logo, a photograph of the fieldworker, and wear the Census 2022 branded over-shirts.



Deputy Minister Pinky Kekana and Stats SA field workers before an outreach in Delft.



Deputy Minister Pinky Kekana urging community members to participate in Census 2022.



Tihlohelo Pelatshweu said:

"Today I have managed to know more about requirements needed to apply for funding and about the points system at tertiary level. I appreciate the advice we received from the social and the motivational talk by the youth activist."



Ntepe Manja said:

"What I learned from the session is that I should believe in myself, I am greater than any obstacle and that I should be like a warrior who does not quit, as anything can happen in this journey of life."

PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

Session on post-school opportunities and social issues

By Phoka Mofokeng: GCIS, Free State

The Government Communication and Information System in partnership with the Free State Office of the Premier hosted an information-sharing session with the class of 2022 matriculants from Ithabiseng and EE Monese High Schools in Matwabeng, Senekal, on 21 January 2022.

The session sought to inform the learners about the economic and academic opportunities that are available during post-matric.

Various institutions of higher learning in the area were invited to inform the learners about academic opportunities offered and the admission requirements at their institutions.

Learners were provided in detail the difference between a technical college and a university.

They were further warned to be wary of bogus colleges when they apply for admissions and advised to verify the legitimacy of the colleges

and the qualifications offered by contacting the Department of Higher Education and Training and the South African Qualifications Authority.

Learners were also informed about the National Student Financial Aid Scheme funding available to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds and on the requirements of the application.

As part of providing support, the learners will be assisted with the application of a smart identity card.

During the session, a social worker, Ayanda Nthapo, also spoke to the learners about peer pressure, depression, domestic violence and bullying that normally affects learners to stay focused in schools.

She informed the learners about the psychological support that the social workers provide to schools.



Learners who attended the dialogue at EE Monese High School.



Ayanda Nthapo addressing the learners on social issues.

PRIORITY 6: SOCIAL COHESION AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.

Men participate in gender-based violence dialogue

By Vasanthi Naidoo: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The Government Communication and Information System partnered with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health to host a community dialogue for men at the Amaoti Community Hall on 28 January 2022.

The dialogue was intended to create a safe space for men to discuss issues that affect them.

Attendees indicated that the economy, employment opportunities, access to basic services, and Gender-Based-Violence and Femicide (GBVF) were of serious concern to them and must be addressed.

GBVF is a scourge that men are also worried about because the majority of the violent acts were committed by men, thus giving them a poor reputation even though the majority of the men were against it, domestic violence and child abuse.

The men said the gender stereotyping of all men as abusers was unfair because many men lead and actively participate in the fight against domestic violence and child abuse.

Unemployment and financial stress were highlighted as significant contributors to GBVF as some are disrespected by their spouses and family members when they cannot fulfill their duties.

This disrespect, together with the financial, employment and other stressors including personal health issues, and the lack of coping mechanisms, they said, create an environment for domestic and gender-based violence.

As some men often suffer in silence and are reluctant to request help, there is a need for more education and awareness campaigns to be held with men in respect of GBVF, men's health issues, including mental health and stress management.

Furthermore, there has been a concern that a fewer men than women have been vaccinated against COVID-19. The activation, therefore, provided much-needed clarity and assurance on the safety and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines, dispelling myths with scientific facts.

Also, male medical circumcision and safe sex were promoted as ways to reduce the risk of contracting HIV and AIDS, which compromises people's immunity. A compromised immune system reduces the body's ability to effectively fight any infection, especially COVID-19.

Various units from the Provincial Department of Health were on site to render services such as sugar, blood pressure testing, HIV counseling and testing, and providing advice and information.



Men participating in the discussions facilitated by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health.



An official from the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health serving a community member.