



MY DISTRICT TODAY



STAY  
SAFE

PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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## CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

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## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### Government intensifies vaccine roll-out awareness

By Sinxolo Gqala: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in Amathole, continues to intensify the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out awareness.

The GCIS, together with the Raymond Mhlaba Local Municipality, Department of Health and ward committees, held an awareness activation in the areas of Saki township, Thornpark and Xesi town on 8 April 2021.

The programme is part of the monthly awareness programmes that are meant to improve and intensify awareness and communication on the COVID-19 pandemic and also encourage people to participate in the vaccination programme once it begins with the wider population as per the vaccine roll-out plan and stages.

The emphasis was on urging and encouraging people to stay safe, observe safety protocols and regularly practise non-medical safety measures of washing hands with soap and water, or sanitising, practising social distancing and wearing face masks.

Government has noticed a concerning trend of increasing numbers of detected COVID-19 cases in a number of districts across the country. The residents are cautioned to be vigilant as the third wave of infections remains a possibility in the country if protocols are not followed.



A government official placing COVID-19 vaccine posters during an activation in Xesi town.



government  
communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Monitoring of government supported factories

*By Lindokuhle Chiliza: GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal.*

The Deputy Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, Nomalungelo Gina, paid a week-long visit to KwaZulu-Natal from 19 to 23 April 2021. The aim of her visit was to monitor Special Economic Zones (SEZs), industrial parks and government-supported factories.

Additionally, the monitoring visit was aimed at assessing progress made in the implementation of the SEZ programme, Revitalisation of Industrial Parks Programme, and sector-specific master plans that are part of the re-imagined National Industrial Development Strategy.

Places that were visited included Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone, KwaSithebe Industrial Park, Protea Leather Natal in Tongaat, Dube Trade Port SEZ in Durban, Bata Footwear in Estcourt and Msinga Clothing Factory in Msinga.

The Deputy Minister met with the leadership of SEZs, industrial parks and companies. After receiving briefings on the status of each facility, she was taken on a tour in the facilities where she also had an opportunity to interact with employees of the different companies.

Deputy Minister Gina engaged with management and was informed about the difference that government support makes in the daily lives of the employees. During these engagements, the factories got to outline the business challenges experienced and the impact of COVID-19 on their operations and production.



Deputy Minister Nomalungelo Gina leading stakeholder engagements and monitoring visits.





A government official engaging with a senior citizen about the registration for vaccine.

## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### COVID-19 vaccine registration awareness

By Kaone Lekgetho: GCIS, North West

On 21 April 2021, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) conducted an awareness activation in Mahikeng to inform senior citizens over the age of 60 years and above, about the COVID-19 vaccine, online registration and recent news update about the vaccination processes.

The GCIS educated the citizens about the process of registering on the Electronic Vaccination Data System through the link <https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za> and also volunteered to assist them to register.

COVID-19 vaccine will be administered for free at point of service, as government prepares to begin phase two vaccine roll-out on 17 May 2021, targeting senior citizens. Government has since added other registration methods and pleads with the public to assist citizens who are 60 years

and above to register for vaccination. This can be done through the COVID WhatsApp number by sending "REGISTER" to 0600 123 456. You can also register by SMS by dialing \*134\*832\*ID number#. If a senior citizen does not have an ID number, just dial \*134\*832#. These services are zero rated, so you do not need data or airtime, or a smartphone to be able to register by SMS. If you encounter any issues while registering, contact the COVID-19 hotline on 0800 029 999.



Senior citizens holding pamphlets on vaccination registration.

## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

### Land handover in Covie

By Marianne Williams and Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape



Deputy President David Mabuza and other government leaders celebrating the official land handover with the Covie community.

On 30 April 2021, the residents of Covie celebrated gaining back more than 764 000 hectares of land during a land handover ceremony lead by Deputy President David Mabuza in his capacity as chairperson of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Land Reform.

The Deputy President was supported by the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Thoko Didiza, Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Patricia De Lille, Western Cape Premier Alan Winde and MEC for Human Settlements, Tertuis Simmers.

The handover came after a successful land settlement claim, which was lodged 26 years ago. The title deeds were handed over to 411 families, comprising more than 2 000 people as part of government's plan to accelerate land reform.

Johannes Toring, a resident, said that many who reside in Covie are descendants of foresters and their land was taken away from them in the 1970s. "After we were left without land, a lot of people moved out of Covie, thus being forced to move to the Eastern Cape and surrounding areas," he said.

The handover ceremony took place during the commemoration of Freedom Month, which also demonstrated government's commitment to human dignity and the pursuit of an inclusive economy based on equitable spatial justice.

"We congratulate the Covie community for this successful land settlement claim. We join in the celebration of gaining back more than 764 000 hectares of land that will positively impact the 411 households to gain back their financial freedom," said Deputy President Mabuza.

"This area is rich with agricultural and eco-tourism opportunities. In our celebration, we appeal to the Covie community to use this land effectively for heritage purposes, commercial activities and agricultural activities. Rest assured that in all your endeavours, government across all spheres and working with our social partners, stand ready to support you to use the land sustainably to benefit your families, your community and to preserve your heritage," he added.





**Dorothy Kido said:**

"As a community, we are very excited about the land handover and would like to see homes being built for us and a clinic because the closest one is in Grags, which is far from us."



**Percy Barnardo said:**

"I am very happy about the land handover, which we have been waiting for many years. Our community needs proper homes to be built and we also need a community centre."



**Johannes Toring said:**

"I was born here in Covie and feel privileged to be alive to witness the day when we finally received our land back. It is really exciting to realise that our community now have opportunities to grow and expand with this land that we have received. The possibilities are endless with the proper guidance from government, especially regarding growing crops."