



# MYDISTRICTTODAY



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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

Ndlelantle Pinyana  
043 722 2602 or 076 142 8606  
[ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za](mailto:ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za)

### FREE STATE

Yolisa Blom  
051 448 4506 or 072 130 9893  
[yolisa@gcis.gov.za](mailto:yolisa@gcis.gov.za)

### GAUTENG

Peter Gumede  
011 331 0164 or 083 570 8080  
[peterg@gcis.gov.za](mailto:peterg@gcis.gov.za)

### KWAZULU-NATAL

Ndala Mngadi  
031 301 6787 or 082 877 9420  
[ndala@gcis.gov.za](mailto:ndala@gcis.gov.za)

## PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND JOB CREATION.

### Local project creates economic opportunities

By Phiwokuhle Zokufa and Sinovuyo Peter: GCIS Eastern Cape

To profile service-delivery milestones and celebrate 30 Years of Freedom, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) hosted a radio programme at Ingwane FM on 29 January 2024. It profiled agricultural projects supported by government. Kholeka Malipale of Ikamva LeNcise Primary Cooperative was part of the programme to talk about the project and the employment opportunities it has created.

Ikamva LeNcise Primary Cooperative is an egg production project, assisted by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development with 1 000 egg layers, the project can produce around 400 to 500 eggs per day.

This project, named after Ncise, a small village in the OR Tambo District, envisages to employ young people. The project supplies local businesses and supermarkets. This can also assist in the development of marketable skills, encourage entrepreneurship and stimulate job creation.

“In the next five years, we see Ikamva LeNcise expanding its production and producing more eggs so that we can supply all supermarkets in the OR Tambo District,” said Kholeka Malipale, the founder of the cooperative. She further said that people who want to farm must be dedicated and must apply for funding from government institutions, as these opportunities are available.



Phiwokuhle Zokufa sharing information with the listeners about services offered by the GCIS.



Businessman Maliphale during a radio interview at Ingwane FM.



government communications

Department: Government Communication and Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**LIMPOPO**

Thanyani Ravhura  
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461  
[thanyani@gcis.gov.za](mailto:thanyani@gcis.gov.za)

**MPUMALANGA**

Jerry Nkosi  
013 753 2397 or 082 316 5295  
[Jerry@gcis.gov.za](mailto:Jerry@gcis.gov.za)

**NORTH WEST**

Boitumelo Mosadi  
018 381 7071 or 073 245 0906  
[boitumelom@gcis.gov.za](mailto:boitumelom@gcis.gov.za)

**NORTHERN CAPE**

Ofentse Moeti  
053 832 1378/9 or 084 390 4330  
[Ofentse@gcis.gov.za](mailto:Ofentse@gcis.gov.za)

**WESTERN CAPE**

Geraldine Thopps  
021 418 0533/2307 or 081 281 2200  
[Geraldine@gcis.gov.za](mailto:Geraldine@gcis.gov.za)

**PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.**

**Vuselela TVET College hosts public speech viewing**

*By Rapelang Motlagomang: GCIS, North West*

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) in partnership with the Vuselela TVET college hosted the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) public viewing on 8 February 2024. The viewing took place at the Vuselela TVET Potchefstroom campus with the aim of familiarising the students with government programmes and how the government is run.

The JB Marks Local Municipality together with the Office of the Premier in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District played an integral role in the success of the public viewing. The Executive Mayor of JB Marks Local Municipality, Gaba Thithiba Ka Qhele, graced the event and had a chance to address the student after the SoNA.

In his address, he summarised the SoNA, key to what President Cyril Ramaphosa has said was that this year is the 30th celebration of the South African democracy. He further mentioned that the municipality and the college must work together to address some of the challenges that the learners are experiencing. He said that the President has indicated that the local government must be capable of implementing all the solutions.

He said that JB Marks Municipality is playing its part regarding the development of its community and supporting students.

“As the municipality have accommodated students from this college at our facilities at Potchefstroom Dam resort, this is to ensure that they have accommodation until their National Student Financial Aid Scheme funding is sorted,” said Gaba ka Qhele.

He said that students do not participate in the affairs of the country, and that should not be the norm as the voice of the youth is needed in government affairs.

In conclusion, he thanked the GCIS and all stakeholders involved, and requested that more partnerships be made to create platforms for students to engage government.



The students at the Vuselela TVET College in Potchefstroom watching the SoNA.



Executive Mayor Thithiba ka Qhele engaging the students after the SoNA.

## PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

### Job Fair empowers youth

By Motseki Ngubeni: GCIS, Free State

To address the challenge of unemployment, the Department of Employment and Labour led by Minister Thulas Nxesi hosted a two-day Job Fair event that took place at Kaizer Sebothelo Stadium in Botshabelo on 24 and 25 February 2024.

This goes to show government's commitment in ensuring that it leaves no one behind. The Job Fair connected job seekers with potential employers through registering on a job seekers database. The job seekers from Mangaung came in large numbers to acquire the opportunities that may be available to them. The event commenced with an employer breakfast session, which was led by Minister Nxesi and encompassed the discussions with the different departments and potential employers as well as labour market issues, strategies to address unemployment in the province and deliberations on the National Labour Migration Policy and the proposed Employment Services Amendment Bill.

A total of 29 institutions and departments showcased their respective employment and skills opportunities at their allocated exhibition stalls, where job seekers were allowed to engage with them. The services offered to job seekers comprised information on self-employment initiatives, career counselling and registration on the job-seeker database.

Minister Nxesi called on employers to register their vacancies and available training opportunities in the department's job placement platform, the Employment Services System of South Africa system to help cushion the effects of poverty and unemployment. The Executive Mayor of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, Gregory Nthatsi, gave support to this initiative and presented the opening remarks. "Youth unemployment is a national problem, and this requires government to be proactive in addressing the challenge. I believe this Jobs Fair will bring hope to the people of Mangaung," said Mayor Nthatsi.

On the second day of the event, Grade 11 and 12 learners from different schools in Botshabelo attended the event to get career guidance, which allowed them to interact with potential future employers. The hall was full of young people who were eager to engage with different companies that were present at the fair. The Department of Employment and Labour will continue to host such events across the country in different districts.



Officials from the Department of Employment and Labour assisting members of the community.



A mobile service centre of the Department of Employment and Labour registering job seekers on the database.



Minister Nxesi addressing employers at the breakfast session.



Mayor Nthatsi also addressed the audience at the breakfast session.

## PRIORITY 7: A BETTER AFRICA AND WORLD.

### Commission on Khoi-San Matters Research Symposium

By Peter Titus: GCIS, Western Cape

The Commission on Khoi-San Matters hosted a watershed symposium under the theme: “Khoi-San statutorily recognized, no longer a myth”. The symposium took place at Garden Court Hotel from 13 to 14 March 2024 in Cape Town. The symposium aims to create a platform that enables the recognition of the Khoi-San through embracing diverse perspectives and dialogue on the history, heritage, identity and culture of the Khoi-San.

The Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership Act, 2019 (Act 3 of 2019) was adopted by Parliament in 2019, assented to in November 2019 and commenced on 1 April 2021. The commission was established in terms of section 52 of the Act. Is for the first time that statutory recognition of the Khoi-San communities, branches and leaders is provided for by law.

Some of the important provisions of the Act include the commission receiving applications for the recognition of Khoi-San communities and leaders and making recommendations to the Minister of

Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in this regard. The commission affords an equal and fair opportunity for Khoi-San communities to lodge applications for recognition of their communities, branches and leaders.

This important symposium underscores the point that, as South Africans we are one nation, one people, united in our diversity particularly as we celebrate the 30 Years of Freedom and Democracy. The South African nation is a product of diverse streams of culture and history as such our future is intertwined for South Africa that belongs to all who live in it.

Objectives of the symposium involve identifying Khoi-San heritage, customs and customary laws whilst highlighting research gaps and contributing to deepening of knowledge and scholarship of the Khoi-San through sharing of research/knowledge. The symposium was attended by various representatives of Khoi-San communities and academic experts to enrich deliberations on the subject matter.



The Research Symposium on Khoi- San Matters was opened with the National Anthem and a Khoi- San Prayer session.



Professor Nico Botha, chairperson of the Khoi-San Commission, opened the proceeding and presented the role of the commission of Khoi-San Matters.



Jacob Cloete from the University of the Western Cape making a presentation.



Deputy Minister Prince Zolile Ncamashe and other dignitaries.



Zenzile Khoisan providing some background information.