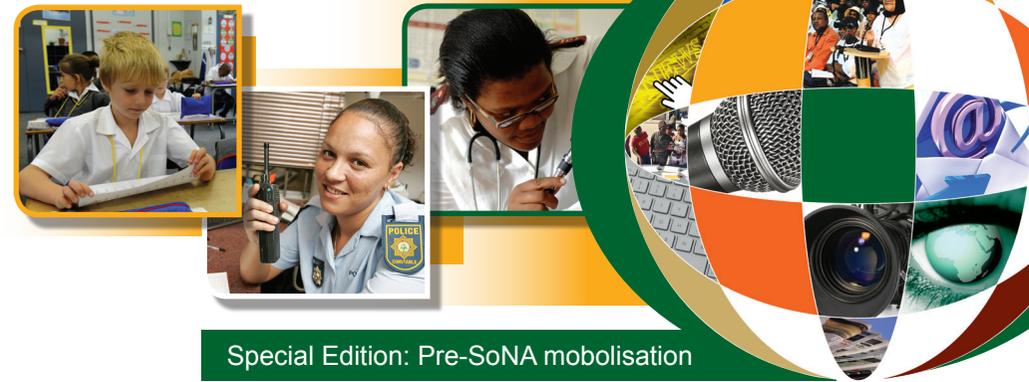





MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 4 / February 2017

Special Edition: Pre-SoNA mobilisation

CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

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OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

School receives cyber lab

By Vuyani Sibene: GCIS, Eastern Cape



Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams and MEC Qhoboshiyane with other stakeholders at the official launch of the cyber lab at Mancam Junior Secondary School.

The Deputy Minister of Communications, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams and Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise, Bulelani Magwanishe, handed over school furniture and South African Social Security Agency school uniform to learners from poor households. The event took place on 31 January 2017. MEC for Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, Mlibo Qhoboshiyane, and Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams officially launched a cyberlab at Mancam Junior Secondary School in Mqanduli.

This forms part of government's ongoing Pre-SoNA 2017 back-to-school campaign, which will culminate in the National Development Plan 2030 Back-to-School Imbizo Week at the end of February 2017.

This programme was a follow-up to Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams's visit in July 2016 where she committed to return to the school to respond to the identified needs and also demonstrate the available opportunities in the communications sector. Entities such as Eskom, Vodacom, Media Development and Diversity Agency, South African Broadcasting Corporation, Independent Communication Authority of South Africa, South African Airways, departments of public enterprise, communications, rural development and Government Communication and Information System showcased available career and bursary opportunities.

MEC Qhoboshiyane said, "We would like to thank the teachers from the Mancam Junior Secondary School, education is key, it can turn jungles into oasis". He further conveyed his respect to the learners and pleaded with them not to do drugs. The MEC emphasised the department's commitment to produce animal doctors.

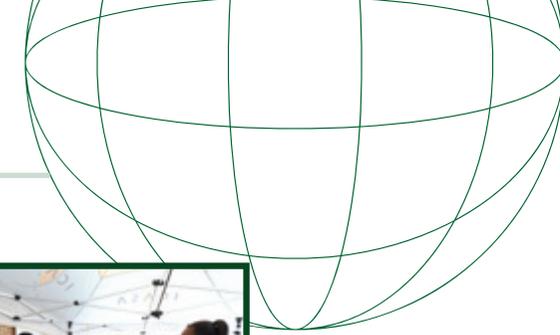
"We want to produce the economic freedom in our life time through education not tenders This is where we are focusing with all government departments working together taking South Africa forward," Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams said.



government
communications

Department:
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Different stakeholders exhibiting their products and services at the event.



Matikinca Lusizo said:

"I believe that the career expo will help me to know more about my career of choice and what grades I must obtain to meet the requirements."



Ngxikigxa Zingiswa said:

"I think the career expo will help me in choosing the right career."



Magxukwana Lithembha said:

"I think today I will learn many things that will lead me to university next year."



Mswelanto Selina said:

"The career expo will motivate me to chase my dreams."



OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

Mariveni SoNA mobilisation

By Odas Ngobeni: GCIS, Limpopo

In an effort to create awareness and mobilise communities around the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) to be delivered on 9 February 2017, Government Communication and Information System led a door-to-door campaign at Mariveni village in 23 of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality in Limpopo on 7 February 2017. The campaign was supported by ward councillor, Given Malatjie, and his ward committee secretary, Motto Mawila.

President Jacob Zuma will deliver the SoNA in Parliament, Cape Town. The speech is an important occasion where the President outlines government's priorities and plans for the year ahead. The door-to-door campaign also included a visit to an old-age home, which caters for more than 120 pensioners.

The founder of Vankuna Hosana Old-age Home, Catherine Mathye, was thrilled by the visit, saying, "We are happy that you are here to share information with us about the SoNA, but we also have a campaign of our own, which we would love you to be part of.

"We are planning a campaign on 18 February wherein our pensioners will be marching to voice their concern at a rate at which young people in our village are dying as a result of HIV and AIDS, while government has made treatment available at no cost. The aim is to say to young people in our village that it is no shame to take [antiretroviral] drugs when you are infected, and we want every stakeholder to be part of this campaign," she said.

Ward councillor Malatjie promised to offer assistance to the old-age home. "We are going to work with you to ensure that the building of a shelter here is prioritised in our integrated development plan, though we cannot at this stage commit to the time frame as to by when the budget will be made available. We are happy as government with the work you are doing to care for the elderly in our community," he said.



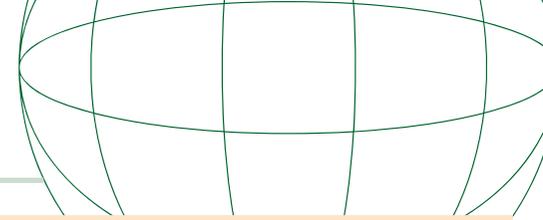
Vincent Mashele said:

"My wish is for the President to speak about government plans to cancel tendering and employ people within government departments to do this work that is done by rich contractors who are paying us nothing. The EPWP is a good initiative but cannot single-handedly provide solutions to our unemployment crisis."



Tintswalo Manyoke said:

"I will be watching the State of the Nation Address. I wish for the President to talk about programmes to assist unemployed women in rural areas. We see a lot of empowerment programmes for only those in government positions and in Parliament."



Jabulani Maswanganyi said:

“I would like the President to speak about the progress in the implementation of the land redistribution programme, with focus on farm workers who are exploited in many of these farms. The President should also speak about plans to reopen the factories in Nkowankowa, which used to provide job opportunities to thousands of people.”



Selinah Malungani said:

“The President should speak about accelerating the housing delivery programme for the poor. There are still many of us who are without proper shelter. The Child-support Grant should be increased to at least R600 a month.”



Odas Ngobeni, Councillor Given Malatjie and the ward committee secretary, Motto Mawila, interacting with residents of Mariveni.



OUTCOME: DECENT EMPLOYMENT THROUGH INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

Kimberley ready for the SoNA

Masego Motshidisi, GCIS Northern Cape

Build-up programmes for the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) 2017 kicked off smoothly in the Northern Cape.

Residents of Galeshewe woke up to a day filled with information during the early hours of 3 February 2017.

Government stakeholders, non-governmental organisations and community development workers flooded the streets of Galeshewe for a SoNA street activation.

The events were aimed at enticing and encouraging citizens to watch and listen to the President's speech.

The Frances Baard District Municipality Councillor, Vuyo Ndlela, participated in a radio talk-show at Revival FM on 8 February to market and popularise the SoNA event.

Live viewing events have been arranged in various parts of the province where people can watch the SoNA as a collective.



Revival FM Presenter Olebogeng Molale interviewing Councilor Vuyo Ndlela.



Kgomotso Mothibi said:

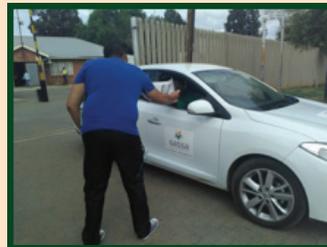
“Unemployment and corruption in government are serious issues and I want the President to address it in his speech. We need to know how it will be tackled this year.”



Community members receiving information products.



Pedestrians, commuters and the elderly were also targeted during the event.



Motorists also received communication material at the events.



Patrick Gaikangwe said:

“I am a small business owner so I am speaking from a business perspective. Our businesses need funding. Hawkers, tuck-shop owners should get funding. I want the President to address this issue in his speech.”



OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

Pre-SoNA activation in Mpumalanga

By Bongani Mazibuko: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Pre-SoNA 2017 awareness activations were held in Mpumalanga to ensure that citizens in the province become aware of the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) to be presented by the President of the Republic of South Africa on 9 February 2017.

The awareness campaigns were conducted through various platforms such as dialogues, information-sharing sessions, radio talk shows and through announcements in meetings. The younger generation was not left out, an information session was organised for them, where the ward councillor, Duduzile Ngobeza, encouraged learners to watch the SoNA on 9 February 2017.



Bongani Mazibuko informing the public and encouraging community members to tune in, listen on radio or watch the SoNA.



Ntakanyana informing learners of Izimbali Combined MST School about the SoNA and encouraging them to be involved in the programmes of government and be inspired to be future leaders.

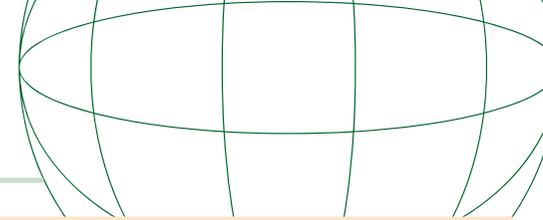


Ward councillor, Duduzile Ngobeza, encouraging young people to watch the SoNA.



Mfanimfikile Nkosi said:

“I am unemployed and I would like to hear the President indicating that there will be job opportunities for young people living in rural areas.”



Constable December Magagula informing the community members about the services accessible at the South African Police Service and encouraging community members to report crime and work together with the police to fight crime.



Johannes Khanyi said:

“I would like to hear the President talking about free education and job opportunities for young people.”



Mduzuzi Phiri outlining the purpose of the SoNA information session. Sandra Zwane from the National Youth Development Agency informing the community about services offered by the organisation.



Dumisani Simelane said:

“I am unemployed and I would like to hear the President saying there will be improvement of science and technology in schools, and free education for young people.”



OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

High hopes for the SoNA

By Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

One of the most watched events on the public calendar is the annual delivery of the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) by the President.

On this occasion, the President reports on the status of the nation, normally to a joint sitting of Parliament (the National Assembly and National Council of Provinces). The speech is also broadcast on radio and television for the benefit of citizens. South Africans will be keen to hear government plans for tackling the country's challenges when President Jacob Zuma delivers his 2017 SoNA.

Government Communication and Information System together with National Rural Youth Service Corps youth took to the streets of Zoar to find out what citizens hope the President will talk about. The activation took place on 8 February 2017 at Zoar in Kannaland.



Government officials engaging with community members of Zoar in the Kanaland Municipality.



Community members at the local clinic and church training room respectively.

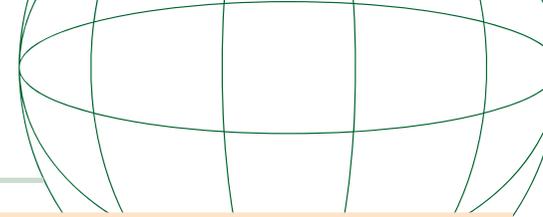


Door-to-door awareness in Zoar community.



Mr and Mrs Van Rooyen said:

"The information around the 2017 SoNA is useful for us; we now know exactly what is going to happen on the night of the SoNA. Substance abuse, child abuse and gangsterism are rife in our community, which put our people in danger. We are definitely going to attend the 2017 SoNA live viewing at the Maxi Community Hall because we want to know what the plans of government are for this coming year. We really want to see better police services in our community. We never saw the things that happened around Parliament during the SoNA, and we will attend the live viewing to see with our own eyes."



Melandre Jaftha said:

“During the State of the Nation Address, the President will talk about what government has done in the past year and what government plans are for the people of South Africa, for this year. I am concerned about substance abuse, crime, lack of opportunities for young people and teenage pregnancy. I will certainly attend the live big screen viewing event at the Zoar, Maxi Community Hall to hear what opportunities are there for young people.”



Susan Jacobs said:

“Housing, substance abuse, child abuse, unemployment and sexual abuse, are a concern for me. I will not be able to attend the live viewing event but will definitely listen to the President’s speech on the radio in order to know how government will help our rural communities, especially the youth with jobs and fighting crime.”



Chantelle Booysen said:

“I am not aware of the State of the Nation Address, but would like to know more. The information products regarding the 2017 SoNA, are very useful, especially for people who do not have television. I would like to hear the President talk about free education, unemployment, water saving, housing and roads, and would like to advise the President to seriously look into providing work for young people like myself who stay in the rural town of Zoar.”