



LIMPOPO

Thanyani Ravhura
015 291 4689 or 082 421 3461
thanyani@gcis.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

Jerry Nkosi
013 753 2397 or 082 316 5295
Jerry@gcis.gov.za

NORTH WEST

Boitumelo Mosadi
018 381 7071 or 073 245 0906
boitumelom@gcis.gov.za

NORTHERN CAPE

Marius Nagel
053 832 1378/9 or 083 778 9179
mariusn@gcis.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Geraldine Thopps
021 697 0145 or 081 281 2200
Geraldine@gcis.gov.za



The singing of the National Anthem.

The group engaged with one another, inmates spoke about what they would like to hear the President talk about, and the issues affecting them. Some of the inmates said they would like to hear the President talking about the issue of unemployment, the National Student Financial Aid Scheme payment issues, poverty alleviation and how to tackle corruption.

In his address, the President spoke of issues which the inmates expected him to address, such as:

- The successful Presidential Jobs Summit that agreed on far-reaching measures that, when fully implemented, will nearly double the number of jobs being created in South African economy each year;
- The appointment of a new National Director of Public Prosecutions, Advocate Shamila Batohi, to lead the revival of the National Prosecuting Authority and to strengthen the fight against crime and corruption; and
- Stabilising the business processes of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme to be a priority in the coming year so that it is properly capacitated to carry out its critical role in supporting eligible students.



Government officials speaking at the event.





Amy Peters said:

"I have been encouraged today to go and vote. I did register but was not sure if I was going to vote but after today I realise how important it is."



Keanan Snel said:

"I learnt about things I never knew before. I did not know government was helping and investing in businesses of young people."



Bonnie Speelman said:

"Today was great because we gained a lot of information and we also got information. The NYDA was able to answer some of my questions related to business grants."

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

Youth dialogue addressing unemployment

By Natasha Peterson: GCIS, Eastern Cape



Different stakeholders addressing the youth.

On 29 January 2019, Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) together with the Department of Labour, National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) and the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) held a youth dialogue at East Cape Midland College in Graaff-Reinet.

The event started with a presentation from the GCIS on the importance of the State of the Nation Address (SoNA). Thereafter the IEC engaged the youth on issues related to voter registration, and also encouraged the youth to cast their votes in the upcoming national and provincial elections. The second part of the dialogue dealt with an issue on the minds of many young people, unemployment.

The Department of Labour registered all the students who attended the dialogue, on the department's employment seekers' database and shared some important job seekers tips with the students. The NYDA also shared information on their database, and told the youth that they can easily register on this database by visiting their website www.nyda.gov.za, and also encouraged the youth to follow the NYDA on Twitter and like their Facebook page to get notifications of new opportunities. Besides the employment services the NYDA also went into details about the services they offer young people who have or want to start their own businesses. One of the students who has already registered a company was able to get information, which she can now use to apply for a grant from the NYDA.



Minister Bheki Cele motivating the Kamhlushwa Primary School learners.



Sibongile Thwala said:

“We are so pleased here at Kamhlushwa that we finally have a police station. We used to travel to Tonga or Malelane to certify copies. This police station is already assisting us in decreasing crime because it is just a phone-call away and police arrive quickly to attend to us.”

OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE.

Police station to curb crime

By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga



Minister Bheki Cele leading the official unveiling of the plaque at Kamhlushwa Police Station.

The Minister of Police, Bheki Cele, officially opened the Kamhlushwa Police Station on 24 January 2019, accompanied by the National Commissioner General Khehla Sitole, Provincial Commissioner Lieutenant-General Mondli Zuma, MEC Pat Ngomane, Nkomazi Executive Mayor Cllr Johan Mkhathswa, community policing forum provincial chairperson, Mpumalanga Traditional Leaders Chairperson Inkhosi Sandile Ngomane and dignitaries from several neighbouring countries such as Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland. While signing the station register, the Minister told the community members that the opening of the Kamhlushwa Police Station is one of the measures being instituted to curb cross border crime.

The police station, headed by Captain Mzwandile Nyambi, has been operating for about a year and a half and has recorded numerous successes in curbing crime through community campaigns, arresting suspects and busting drug dealers. As lack of resources and manpower are often the biggest obstacles that crime fighters face, Kamhlushwa Police Station was built to ensure that more police are deployed in the area and communities do not have to travel far to access the services. Minister Cele expressed his hope that the station would be a point of excellence and serve the people and promised that the police would work in unity with the community to keep them safe.

Communities were informed that police work together as a cluster with the South African National Defence Force, Department of Home Affairs and customs to deal with cross-border crimes, so communities must always expect to see roadblocks as part of curbing crime. He further stated that an agreement had been reached with neighbouring countries and new strategies to deal with these crimes are already in action.

In conclusion to the celebration, Minister Cele and his entourage watched a parade by police and traffic officers. Thereafter, local police officers who have been in service for 10, 20, 30 and 40 years were rewarded with medals for their commitment and dedication respectively. The Minister also visited the Kamhlushwa Primary School where he donated school shoes to needy learners.



Minister Bheki Cele and police officers donating shoes at Kamhlushwa Primary School.



Malachia Mpeoana said:
“I am very happy about what happened today. It shows that government cares about us as residents at the farms. I am also encouraged to register for a set-top box.”



Winny Mpaoana said:
“I liked the speech of the President especially when he discouraged the abuse of women and children. I also liked when he mentioned the importance of small businesses because they create more jobs for the youth.”

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

SoNA live viewing at Mooifontein farm

By Cholo Mothibi: GCIS, Free State



GCIS official Moepeng Tshwane addressing the farm dwellers.



Farm dwellers of Mooifontein watching the SoNA.

Government gave farm dwellers from Mooifontein in Zastron an opportunity by government to watch the State of the Nation Address (SoNA) delivered by President Cyril Ramaphosa on 7 February 2019. This community was connected with set-top boxes (STBs) accessed from government freely through the Digital Terrestrial Television process. The speech brought much happiness and hope to the farm dwellers of Mooifontein in Zastron. This was the first experience for the community to watch the President's speech on television in their homes.

The farm has 11 houses with seven occupants. Two houses at the farm had STBs which made it possible to watch government programmes. All families were therefore requested to gather at one house and watch the speech together. The live viewing of SoNA brought hope to those who thought government was doing less for the people. It was a joyful day as the residents could see change and development in their area.

A GCIS official, Moepeng Tshwane, encouraged the farm dwellers who had not yet registered for STBs to do so and gave them information on the qualifying criteria. She further explained the excitement and happiness that the department felt when bringing government services to the people.