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TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS

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PRIORITY 3: EDUCATION, SKILLS AND HEALTH.

School receives a hall

By Morena Motloutng: GCIS, Free State

Free State Premier Sefora Ntombela accompanied by the Mayor of Mafube Local Municipality, Councillor Tlhoare Motsoeneng, visited Refeng Thabo Secondary School on 18 January 2022, as part of the back-to-school campaign.

The school achieved 100% matric pass rate for the first time in the 2020 academic year, which saw it receiving a school hall donated by the Free State Provincial Government.

The school hall is still under construction and is almost completed.

The Premier and the Mayor monitored the building of the hall, engaged the learners, and also donated toiletries to the learners.

Learners were encouraged to work with their educators and parents to achieve the objectives of the 2022 academic year and realise the goal of successful learning and teaching campaign.

It was through this engagement that the learners vowed to work hard throughout the academic year and achieve better results.



Premier Sefora Ntombela inspecting the construction of a hall at Refeng Thabo Secondary School.



Mayor Tlhoare Motsoeneng addressing the learners during the school visit.



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WESTERN CAPE

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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 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Oversight visit at Tsomo

By Sandiswa Mdingi: GCIS, Eastern Cape

The Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, and the Eastern Cape Transport, Safety and Liaison MEC Weziwe Tikana-Gxothiwe, visited Tsomo R61 junction on 4 February 2022.

This visit was due to the recent persistent rains that have disrupted the progress on the reconstruction of the collapsed R61 bridge because of floods.

Many homes were left dilapidated due to the heavy rains. School learners were also affected badly by the damage.

Minister Mbalula and MEC Tikana-Gxothiwe assured the community, taxi drivers and scholars that the reconstruction of the R61 junction bridge would be prioritised.

Mbulelo Peterson from the South African National Roads Agency said the agency will be taking over R61 and it is already moving fast, therefore, the collapsed bridge will be rebuilt soon.

Government is busy enabling economic recovery projects by ensuring that all citizens have easy access to amenities and creating job opportunities for the villagers during the reconstruction period.

The Minister and the MEC also handed over bicycles to scholars of affected villages.

The project is part of ongoing government efforts aimed at providing support to the affected villagers.



Minister Fikile Mbalula and MEC Weziwe Tikana-Gxothiwe addressed the media during the oversight visit.



Minister Fikile Mbalula and MEC Weziwe Tikana-Gxothiwe handed over bicycles and helmets to scholars from schools around Cofimvaba and Tsomo.

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Mpumalanga migrates to digital terrestrial television

By Joy Themba: GCIS, Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga has fully migrated from analogue to digital television. On 1 February 2022, the province joined three others that had already migrated from the old analogue transmitter to the new modern digital one.

Communications and Digital Technologies Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni described this as a critical step in freeing up the much-needed spectrum for mobile companies and creating jobs.

This programme also assisted a lot of community members who could no longer afford to pay TV, by registering and receiving free set-top boxes – which enable them to receive digital television services.

Additionally, the Mpumalanga switch-off will also help Mozambique and the Kingdom of Eswatini to receive access to much clear television channels.

The MEC for Economic Development, Planning and Tourism, Vusi Mkhathshwa, acknowledged the swift response by government as the province is one of the tourist destinations. The MEC also stated that tourists who visit Mpumalanga are able to interact with their families through different communication platforms due to the province’s adequate facilities.

The switch-off was followed by a community visit to Elandshoek to witness digital television and an engagement with community members about registration for government-subsidised set-top-boxes.



Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, Ehlanzeni District Mayor Jesta Sidell and MEC Vusi Mkhathshwa during the analogue switch-off



Maria Mseleku registered for a set-top box and also received a free television.

PRIORITY 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND JOB CREATION.

Randfontein career exhibition

By Tshidi Mokoka: GCIS, Gauteng

The Randfontein Department of Employment and Labour together with various stakeholders, conducted a career expo targeting school leavers, work seekers including youth, women and people with disabilities.

The exhibition was held at the Randfontein Labour Centre on 11 February 2022 and sought to encourage participants to engage with stakeholders on opportunities they can access to improve their lives.

As part of the exhibition, jobseekers were encouraged to bring their CV's and hand them to the Department of Employment and Labour to be uploaded on the database.

Mpumi Mathibe, a career counsellor from the department, said that the reason CVs were requested was to match up qualifying people with available vacancies.

"Many companies and organisations do use our services when looking for employees; so having this database makes it easy for us to match up people looking for employment with these prospective employers," she said.

Most of the people who attended the expo came from neighbouring townships of Toekomsrus and Mohlakeng, and also from Kagiso in Mogale City.

All of them were eager to visit stakeholders at the various stalls to access information and learn more about services offered, for those seeking employment or looking to improve their studies.

One of the job seekers, Patience Thembani, who has completed a Diploma in plumbing said, "My hope today is that the CV that I have submitted will ensure that I get matched up for available vacancies. It is important that we use these types of events to come and get information instead of sitting at home doing nothing but complaining about lack of jobs in the country."

Stakeholders that formed part of the exhibition included Tshepo 1million, Westcol TVET College, Randfontein South African Police Service, South Deep Mine, South West College, South African Revenue Service and Rosebank College.



Participants visiting stalls to get information on opportunities available.



Olga Masango said:

“As a graduate with an LLB degree, my hope is that I get employment. I appreciate what the Department of Employment and Labour is doing for us as jobseekers. It is up to us to use these services.”



Neo Mathe said:

“There is a high rate of unemployment in our country and we appreciate what government is trying to do in assisting us. Sometimes, as young people, we also need to start looking into opening our own businesses. The presence of Tshepo 1million in this event has helped in showing us programmes that they fund for young people to start businesses.”