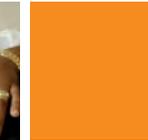




MY DISTRICT TODAY



Issue no. 2 February 2012

CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

For more information about similar programmes, which are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

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ndlelantle@gcis.gov.za

FREE STATE

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GAUTENG

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GCIS in action to create awareness on SoNA

As an integral part of widening the reach of government's messages, provincial and district offices organised various mobilisation drives for people to listen to or watch the State of the Nation Address (SoNA), delivered by President Jacob Zuma on the evening of 9 February 2012. These mobilisation drives were aimed at augmenting the reach and comprehension of government messages through face-to-face engagements between government and members of the public.

The GCIS Information Resource Centre personnel, based in Pretoria, took to the streets of the capital, distributing SoNA mobilisation leaflets and encouraging members of the public to tune into their

radio stations or watch the address on television. The leaflets were printed in English, Setswana, Sepedi, isiNdebele and Afrikaans.

These are some of the people's opinions: An old Afrikaner couple was very happy and excited to see that government is printing leaflets in Afrikaans as well. "This government really cares, né?" they said. They took a lot of leaflets to share with their neighbours, families and friends.

One taxi driver said he applied for a code 14 licence so that he could run his own truck business. He passed the test two years ago but the license has not yet been issued. He insisted that we inform the



Some of the GCIS officials distributing SoNA 2012 marketing material.

President about his problem as he would then know that government cares for its people.

Some ladies said they were selling on the street to generate income for their children, and the Municipality was chasing them away. "Where should we go as this is our country? Can the President do something or say something about street vendors? Are street vendors' not small businesses which government is promoting?"



Members of the public in conversation with GCIS officials during the SoNA 2012 outreach programme.



government communications

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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GOVERNMENT IN ACTION IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE

Vuyokazi Dube and Sabelo Kakaza – GCIS: Eastern Cape

In 2009, President Jacob Zuma declared Mthatha, in the King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality, the nodal point of development through presidential intervention. Therefore it was not surprising that the city was abuzz with a flurry of activities as the Phelophepha Healthcare Train arrived in the area to the excitement of the local communities.

Government Communications, through the Thusong Service Centre Programme, in partnership with Transnet's Phelophepha Healthcare Train, embarked on a service delivery drive aimed at taking public services closer to the people.

Through this integrated service delivery drive, a basket of services can be accessed by rural communities including social services such as applying for identity documents and birth certificates; registering for grants and unemploy-



Minister Mildred Oliphant inspecting the various services provided on the train

ment insurance; and job seekers registering on a database.

The healthcare services on the Phelophepha Healthcare Train include; eye screening, eye tests and the issuing of made-up glasses; tooth extractions, fillings and cleaning; and the psychology clinic assists patients to cope with stress and life challenges.

The Thusong Service Centre – Phelophepha Service Delivery Initiative in the Eastern Cape started at Mthatha station on 16 January 2012 and will go around the province until the end of May 2012.

The Minister of Labour, Ms Mildred Oliphant, visited the service point in Mthatha on 26 January 2012. This was the first visit made by a Minister since the partnership started in 2010. The

purpose of the visit was to assess the progress of the partnership and also to monitor the provision of integrated services to the communities. The Minister spent some time visiting each wagon and interacting with the people.

Ms Nombuso Cekeshe from Mqanduli was one of the patients who visited the Phelophepha Healthcare Train. She said that the community was thankful that government brought the Phelophepha Healthcare Train to their area although it was long overdue. She added that communities would appreciate it if the programme was repeated every year. Ms Cekeshe further applauded the extension of services rendered at the station through the Thusong Service Centre such as Home Affairs, the South African Social Security Agency and the Department of Labour.



People awaiting services at the Mthatha station on the day of the Minister's visit.



The Minister of Labour with officials during the walk-about.

