



BAOBAB NEWS

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President Cyril Ramaphosa delivering his keynote address during the Presidential visit in Limpopo

Presidential Imbizo: Developing Communities, Rebuilding the Economy and Service delivery

Sekhukhune-President Cyril Ramaphosa has led the eighth Presidential Imbizo on Friday, 14 July 2023, at Motodi Sports Complex in the Sekhukhune District. The Imbizo was held under the theme of "Leaving No One Behind" in developing communities, rebuilding the economy and service delivery.

The President prior to engagement with community members, he inspected progress of R700 million road construction project in Burgersfort (R37 Steelpoort-Driekop Interchange road construction Project).

The Scope of the Project involves new vertical and horizontal alignment, improvement of intersection and accesses, increasing the capacity of bridges and major culverts, ancillary works including fencing, guardrails, signs, and projects aimed at local community development.

President has directly engaged with

community members and the community have pleaded with him to ensure that services such as water supply, jobs, electricity and legalization of illegal mining were delivered to the community ahead of the 2024 general elections. He further said more than R12 billion would be set aside for to address water shortages in Sekhukhune district.

The Minister of Water and Sanitation Senzo Mchunu reiterates that government has committed R12 billion and private sector also committed R12 billion to a new water project in the district, to serve 140 communities around Sekhukhune and Mogalakwena and create 42,000 jobs.

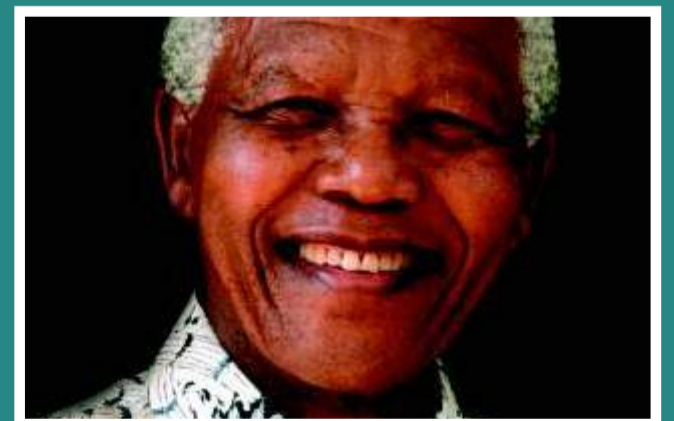
President Ramaphosa has promised the community a better life and also urged residents to work together with government. **DM**



Limpopo Provincial Government sign Memorandum of Agreement with Water Research Commission to address water crisis in Giyani



Limpopo Provincial Government committed to youth development



Commemoration of International Day for Nelson Mandela

Accelerating Youth Economic Emancipation for a Sustainable Future

Premier, Chupu Mathabatha has emphasised the importance of accelerating youth emancipation for a sustainable future.

He was speaking at Mdebula Stadium in Collins Chabane Municipality during commemoration of Youth Day on 16th June 2023.

“The province has more than four thousand funded vacant posts and already not less than two thousand posts have been advertised in the last six months prioritising women, youth and people with disabilities,” adds Mathabatha.

“As the province, we are addressing the shortage of jobs and poverty which we believe we will overcome with partnership with private companies and National Youth Development Agencies (NYDA)”.

He further said, the province in partnership with NYDA has set aside R10 million, to support established and aspiring youth entrepreneurs in the province. More than 200 applications have been received and in the next 60 days, qualified applicants will receive financial support. “It is important to note that we have since committed ourselves to the noble idea of youth development, as such we are here to remind young people about series of empowerment projects available as part of the Limpopo Development Plan guided by the Provincial Socio Economic Recovery Plan,” said Mathabatha.

“Youth should occupy the space by studying relevant courses that will contribute to the economy rather than opting for available courses just to have a degree or diploma”.

“You are more informed than the previous generation, select what you want to study well considering that you are the future of this economy, emancipate sustainable economic future with the evolution of technology because you have the freedom”. Concluded Mathabatha.

EC & DM



Martin Boima, founder and Director of Martin's Nature Care (Pty) Ltd

Government committed to youth development

Through this partnership, the provincial government reaffirms its support to the youth of Limpopo in every stage of their lives as they contend against the challenges of unemployment, poverty and lack of skills.

Martin Boima, founder and Director of Martin's Nature Care (Pty) Ltd, is one of the many beneficiaries of the NYDA and SEDA collaborative partnership. Boima's small business is a brave leap into the future of food which presents the marketplace with a possible alternative to crowded feed lots and battery chickens.

The 27-years-old entrepreneur from Bolobedu Village in Greater Letaba Municipality established his agro-processing business in October, 2020. He was assisted by SEDA.

Boima's story is one of resilience, passion and an unquenchable

desire for knowledge. “I walked the long road from collecting and cooking termites as a child around my father's fire, to employing local experts to collect soldier termites from the mud mounds and turn them into specialised snacks. These are not the reproductive flying termites which are only available once a year for a few weeks. These are “Makeke”, the soldiers, which are available year-round if one knows how to find and entice them out,” he shares the narrative of his life.

“I have developed a unique flour, which is gluten free, high in protein and good fats, and can be utilised as the main constituent of energy bars or biscuits or used as an additive to increase the protein content of conventional cereal flour,” he illustrates.

Boima's work is supported by

science and research, and has passed quality assurance assessments. The termites themselves were analysed for their nutritional value at the University of Limpopo, and once the bars were developed, their nutritional analysis was again tested by the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) for correct labelling when packaged.

Martin's Nature Care has been actively in business for just three years, but has already proved to be a viable and valuable startup, providing employment and community growth. With financial support from the NYDA, the business has managed to grow, employing 3 registered staff members and 15 students from the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) as well as Nelson Mandela University (NMU).**DM**

Boabab News

The heartland of southern Africa - development is about people

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Government provides financial support to established and aspiring youth entrepreneurs

Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, in his State of the Province address said, in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Government have set aside no less than R10 million to support established and aspiring youth entrepreneurs in the province.

Office of the Premier Youth Directorate in partnership with NYDA, recently embarked on Youth Fund Activation Drive aiming to provide young entrepreneurs with an opportunity to access both financial and non-financial business development support in order to enable them to establish or grow their businesses.

The programme focused on youth entrepreneurs who are promising and at a new stage of enterprise development. About 354 youth entrepreneurs registered for financial support during the Youth Fund Activation Drive.

Through this partnership, the provincial government reaffirms its support to the youth of Limpopo in every stage of their lives as they contend against the challenges of unemployment, poverty and lack of skills

Kedibone Manaka Malahlela, founder of Barena Bakery and Confectionery, is one of the many beneficiaries of NYDA.

The 34 years old entrepreneur from Sebayeng, Ga-Dikgale in Polokwane established her bakery business in 2016. Through financial support from NYDA in 2020, she has managed to purchase bakery equipment.

“Just like other graduates, my dream was to find job after my studies but I was unfortunate to find work. I started selling scones at the robots in Mall of the North in 2018 and by that time I was using a normal four plate stove to bake. It was a difficult journey, because other days I would sleep late due number of orders placed by my customers”, Kedibone said.

“Through NYDA financial support, I increased my production and now bake products like cupcakes, biscuits, jam tart and queen cakes. I deliver breads to shops in Sebayeng, Solomondale, Ga-Mokgopo, Madiga, Mankweng and the surroundings of Ga-Dikgale Village. I employed 9 permanent staff and 2 temporary workers. I am also delighted to say that I am operating in a registered business premises”, she illustrated.

“Through NYDA financial support, I increased my production and now bake products like cupcakes, biscuits, jam tart and queen cakes. I deliver



Kedibone Manaka Malahlela, founder of Barena Bakery and Confectionery, is one of the many beneficiaries of NYDA.

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LM & DM

Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities consistently uphold accountability



MEC Sekoati, Cllr Mamedupi, Auditor-General Mr Kheleli, Premier Mathabatha, MEC Makamu and Cllr Mataboge during auditor General Presentation

Limpopo Business Unit Leader of the Auditor-General, Mr Stephen Kheleli has praised both Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities for consistently upholding accountability and achieving clean audits.

Mr Kheleli said Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities have achieved clean audits because they were able to produce financial statements that are free of material misstatements; and to measure and report on their performance in line with the predetermined objectives in their integrated development plans and/or service delivery and budget implementation plans in a manner that is useful and reliable and comply with key legislation.

Both Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities were presented with the awards in the Office of the Premier on Wednesday, 30 May 2023.

“Achieving such encouraging results starts from the political leadership where it commits itself to accountability and good governance”.

He said clean administration happens at difficult times, in municipal space that is highly contested, space that is close to the citizens.

Premier Mathabatha expressed his pleasure in seeing independent institutions such as the Auditor General in their offices acknowledging good work. He noted that having structures such as the AG is crucial for a thriving democracy.

“I am always happy to see the AG in our offices. They know over the years that they are always welcome. For us to be a democracy, we need structures like the AG that are independent to ensure that our democracy thrives. This is good practice, and it is always good to multiply this”.

The Executive Mayor of Capricorn District Municipality, Cllr Mamedupi Tefo expressed excitement for the award. She credited the hardworking team of Councilors and administrators who ensured that systems were in place to maintain the clean audit. Cllr Tefo noted that the pressure is on to maintain the clean audit, and their goal is to push local municipalities to improve their audit

outcomes.

Cllr Moris Mataboge of Waterberg District Municipality highlighted the hard work and commitment of both Councilors and administration in stabilising financial administration of the district. He expressed gratitude for the political leadership's oversight role and the support they received from provincial departments.

Cll Mataboge has emphasised that their responsibility is to give support to the local municipalities, and they have already started assisting local municipalities in compiling their annual financial statements. **DM**

Limpopo Central Academic Hospital to attract more specialist



Premier Chupu Stanely Mathabatha with ENZA during the handing over of a land to build academic hospital

AR45 Billion Limpopo Central Academic Hospital is set to be constructed near Edu Park and Peter Mokaba Stadium. It is anticipated to attract more specialist to work in the province and it will assist to reduce working pressure at other hospitals in the country.

Premier Mathabatha on Monday, 29th May 2023, has handed over a twenty five hectares of land in Polokwane to Enza Contractors for the construction of the art-Quaternary hospital.

In attendance during the official handover of the site were Health MEC Dr Phophi Ramathuba, Treasury MEC Seaparo Sekoati and provincial stakeholders including Polokwane Municipality.

The construction of the hospital is funded by the National Department of Health and it is estimated to create 2000 jobs during the construction phase.

“I don’t have words to express how I feel about Central Academic Hospital. Since I became the Premier,

I have made it known since the days of former president Jacob Zuma and Cyril Ramaphosa that we must construct an academic hospital. It is indeed a dream for the province and the SADC region based on our strategic location, “Mathabatha illustrated.

“The hospital will be built in phases allowing the provincial government to monitor progress to ensure that it is completed on time”.

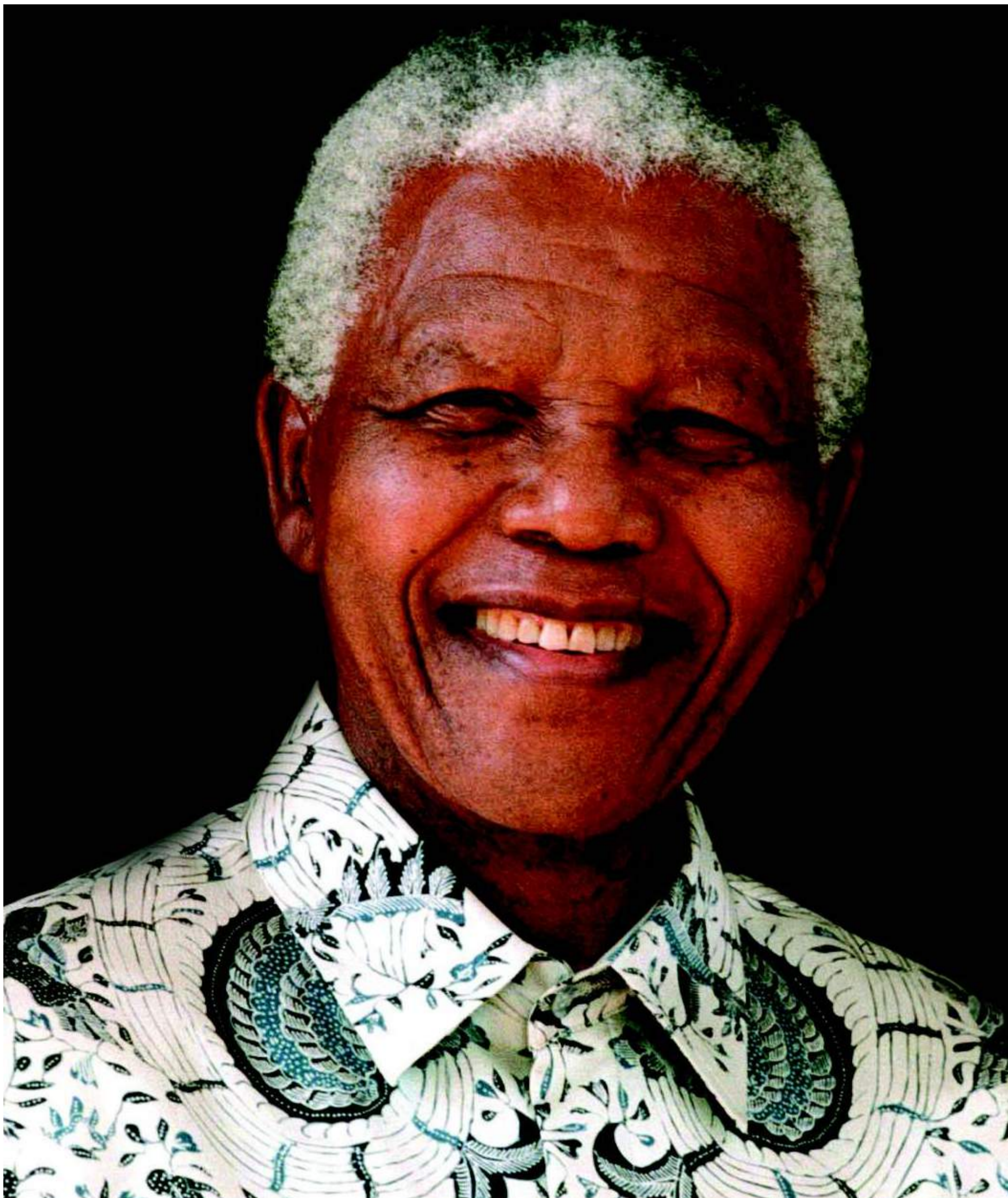
Health MEC Dr Phophi Ramathuba said the Central Academic Hospital

will attract specials across the province.

The hospital is anticipated to have direct and indirect benefits for the locals such as job creation. It will render services such as oncology, gynecology, neonatal, paediatric and cardiac.

DM & EC

COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR NELSON MANDELA



18 July 2023



MEC Phophi Ramathuba, Acting Premier Seaparo Sekoati, Prof. Mahlo Mokgalong, Minister Joe Phaahla and Minister Aaron Motsoaledi during the Sod turning ceremony

Nelson Mandela Day: Sod -turning of the first Central Hospital in Limpopo Province

In celebration of Mandela Day, a day dedicated to honouring the incredible legacy of the late Nelson Mandela, the Limpopo Province witnessed the sod-turning of the first Central Hospital.

The Minister of Health, Dr Joe Phaahla together with Acting Premier of Limpopo, Mr Seaparo Sekoati on Tuesday, 18th July 2023, have presided over the sod-turning ceremony for the construction of the state-of-the-art hospital.

The sod-turning ceremony coincides with Mandela Day - a global celebration of Nelson Mandela's birthday and his legacy.

The building of the hospital is part of the department's health infrastructure development programme as the country is preparing for the National Health Insurance to achieve universal access to quality health care services, regardless of socio-

economic status, and to ensure that all South African's have equitable access to affordable health care.

"The implementation of the central hospital is the results of a collaborative effort between the Limpopo Department of Health and the National Department of Health. The preliminary estimates show that the project is expected to generate 1220 part-time jobs during construction phase and create 2461 full time equivalent jobs in Polokwane and surrounding areas, once the hospital is fully operational," said Sekoati.

He further said the hospital will not only provide medical services but will also serve as a centre of excellence for healthcare education and training.

It will be a place where medical professionals can acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to provide the best care possible. Sekoati urges all stakeholders who

are involved in the project, including the contractor, government officials, and health professionals, to collaborate closely to ensure its successful completion.

Minister of Health, Dr Joe Phaahla has reiterated that under Nelson Mandela leadership, the country has attained freedom and he was very passionate about the health and welfare of all South Africans more especially the poor and marginalised.

Part of Nelson Mandela's focus while in office and even after leaving office was to raise money from private companies to build schools and clinics in poor rural communities and Limpopo Province was a major beneficiary to that effort.

"The beginning of the construction of the hospital is on the one hand a culmination of 29 years of the endeavours of the democratic government to increase access and improve quality of health services and

on the other hand it is the foundation or springboard for even more better quality, especially because a lot has been achieved in the first five years to increase access" adds Phaahla.

He said 488 beds Limpopo Central Hospital will be equipped with advanced medical technology and will offer cutting-edge diagnostic procedures and innovative treatments.

"The hospital is designed to offer specialist services that are relevant and appropriate to an advancing scientific health care field. Patients will receive expert care, treatment, and management of complex conditions without the need to extensive travel to Gauteng Province".

Phaahla said Limpopo Central Hospital will be one of the pillars to deliver the National Health Insurance. **DM**

MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale has spent her 67 minutes of International Mandela Day

Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale has spent her 67 minutes of International Mandela Day on the ground again ensuring that roads are drivable by monitoring routine road maintenance work.

She joined road workers on Road P34/2 which links Mookgophong and Roedtan in the Waterberg District.

This is a 45Km stretch that connects the N11 through Roedtan. The road carries heavy traffic volumes, including trucks, making it one of the strategic business routes in the Province.



MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale has spent her 67 minutes

With the theme for Mandela day being "climate, food and solidarity", MEC Rakgoale highlighted issues of climate change citing that harsh weather conditions also have a negative impact on road infrastructure as unexpected heavy rains damage roads and bridges, and for people to be safe, the department must respond timeously and effectively. **Public Works Comm Team**

MEC Florence Radzilani celebrates International Mandela Day



MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Florence Radzilani has celebrated the international Mandela day at Epilepsy Elandsdoorn Centre in Moutse, Elias Motsoaledi Municipality, Sekhukhune District.

Limpopo MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Florence Radzilani has celebrated the international Mandela day at Epilepsy Elandsdoorn Centre in Moutse, Elias Motsoaledi Municipality, Sekhukhune District.

The MEC was joined in this Mandela Day Programme, by Officials from the Dept of Transport

and Community Safety, Correctional Services, Social Development, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality and Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality.

They planted trees as part of a donation that was coordinated by government to the centre.

MEC on her address, she acknowledged all stakeholders who

made various forms of donations, in recognition of this significant occasion.

MEC Radzilani implores officials in her department, to make sure that in 2 weeks' time, they should come back to the Centre, and handover clothes that are not in use, at their homes.

The MEC went further, and

indicated that, "donating old clothes, does not stop anyone, from buying new clothes, and donate them".

"This", she says, "will be the best way, to preserve the memory and legacy of the great Madiba".

Transport and Community Safety Comm Team

Nelson Mandela Day: MEC Thabo Mokone demonstrates mix in compost planting



MEC Thabo Mokone demonstrating mix in compost planting method

Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD) MEC Thabo Mokone has demonstrated

mix in compost planting method on 18th July 2023, during International Nelson Mandela Day at Rakgari High School, Blouberg Municipality.

During engagements MEC Thabo Mokone has commitment to assist emerging farmers with fertilizers, insecticide

The event was celebrated under the theme: Climate, Food & Solidarity. **Agriculture and Rural Development Comm Team**

MEC Seaparo Sekoati has spent 67 minutes at Nokorlou Secondary School at Mafefe Village



MEC Seaparo Sekoati has spent 67 minutes planting vegetables

Limpopo Provincial Treasury MEC Seaparo Sekoati has spent 67 minutes as part of commemoration of International Mandela Month at Nokorlou Secondary School. Sekoati together with his staff and members of the community have planted vegetables, fruit trees, cleaning and painted the school.

MEC Basikopo Makamu has spent 67 minutes at Calais High School



MEC Basikopo Makamu, Kgoshi Sekororo and Cllr Tsheko Calais Musolwa at Calais High School

In commemoration of Nelson Mandela, Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, MEC Basikopo Makamu has spent 67 minutes for Mandela Day at Calais High School, outside Tzaneen.

The MEC was accompanied by the Mayor of Maruleng Local Municipality, Cllr Tsheko Calais Musolwa and Kgoshi Sekororo handed over computers to the School, painting the walls of some classes and clean the yard. **DM**

MEC Rodgers Monama has spent 67 Minutes at the Modimolle Victim Support Centre.

The Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism MEC Rodgers Monama has spent 67 Minutes during the International Mandela Day at the Modimolle Victim Support Centre.

Monama during his visit said, the centre is strategically based within a community setup, and assist 30-40 victims every month.

"Most of the victims here are victims of abuse, gender based abuse, and rape. The centre is recently experiencing an increase in cases related to teenage behavioral challenges. It is due to such diversified cases that the Centre needs a revamping of the current counselling room as well as daily working machinery".

MEC Monama has indicated that building better societies requires of us to rehabilitate and provide opportunities to our victimized youth as well as all victims of social-ills. **DM**



MEC Nakedi Kekana joins Moral Regeneration Movement and Correctional Services in Commemorating Mandela Month

The MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture MEC Nakedi Kekana joined the Moral Regeneration Movement and the Correctional Services Department in commemorating the Mandela month at the Motsheudi Secondary School in Ga-Sekgopo, Limpopo.

The MEC has urged the young learners to be wary of their environment, and continue to promote the values that the former statesman Nelson Mandela stood for.

"Nelson Mandela and his exceptional collective of leaders and many South Africans have fought for



MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture MEC Nakedi Kekana during Moral Regeneration Movement

equality, non-racism and non-sexism.

All that could mean nothing if we do

not practice gender equality and allow our girl children to be as educated as our boys and to share the same labour in the household. That's the first line of regenerating the moral campus we have so much lost", said Kekana.

The MEC urged the learners to be open in their engagements, and equally learn from what the convicted individuals, who also gave speeches at the event, will be instilling in them to ensure that they allow the moral campus to lead them in society.

Sport, Arts and Culture Comm Team

OPERATION # THIBAMEKOTIDITSELENG



Maintenance of Road D1392 in the Fetakgomo –Tubatse Municipality is completed



Limpopo MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Mme. Nkakareng Rakgoale says the department and its entity, Roads Agency Limpopo are determined to ensure that the existing paved roads network in the province is fully maintained. This follows the recent completion of the maintenance of Road D1392 in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Municipality, in the Sekhukhune District.

The completion of preventative

maintenance work on road D1392 has brought a sigh of relief for the residents of Ga-Malekane and Ga-Mampuru. Road D1392 traverses through a mountainous area, playing a vital role in connecting the two villages. Having fallen into a state of disrepair, causing significant inconvenience, residents who rely on the road for their daily transportation needs now enjoy a smooth driving experience.

“The completion of this preventative

maintenance project is indeed an indication that Roads Agency Limpopo, which is the custodian of roads in the province is working tirelessly to ensure that the state of our roads is improved. This is one of many projects that have been completed across the province in the recent past, an indication that the department wants to see all our roads drivable. We would like to take this opportunity and commend RAL for the work it has undertaken” says

MEC Rakgoale.

The scope of work included maintenance of drainage structures, pavement repairs, re-surfacing erosion protection, replacement of guardrails, construction of speed humps and road signs to improve road safety. **Public Works Comm Team**

Limpopo Provincial Government sign Memorandum of Agreement with Water Research Commission to address water crisis in Giyani

Plokwane-The Limpopo Provincial government on the 24th July 2023, has signed a memorandum of agreement with Water Research Commission to address water crisis in Giyani.

Mr Walter Segooa, Deputy Director General for Stakeholder Management Coordination, signed the memorandum of agreement on behalf of Limpopo Provincial Government. He said the alignment of this strategic partnership with the key priorities and aspirations of the Limpopo Development Plan (LDP), which aims to ensure integrated and sustainable socio-economic and infrastructure development while improving the quality of life for Limpopo citizens.

The agreement is part of the newly launched Giyani Local Scale Climate Resilience Programme (GLSCR) aims to enhance climate resilience and water utilisation in the Giyani area. It is a 3 year



community-led programme scaling Multiple Water Use Systems and solar energy to develop, research and demonstrate practical and sustainable water and climate adaptation solutions in Giyani to improve water sources, utilisation, community resilience and local economic development.

The project is currently implemented in five agricultural sites: Daneil Ravalela Farm, Dzumeri Farm, Loloka Farm, Dzumeri Farm 2 and Muyexe Community Project. It is also being implemented on four community sites of Mbedle, Mayephu, Mzilela and Matsotsosela, with a population of approximately 5000 residents.

The Government of Flanders has given R40 million over three years to support this initiative, with the funding set to conclude in 2024. Afterwards, the project will be expected to sustain itself. **DM**