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Philadelphia Hospital staff on strike

Staff members at Philadelphia Hospital in Dennilton carried out an unprotected strike on Wednesday 10 March, complaining about maladministration and poor working conditions. During the strike, hundreds of employees abandoned their duties and picketed outside the hospital premises calling for the resignation of senior management including the CEO, Risk Manager and Clinical Manager.

Only a few staff members remained in the hospital to attend to emergencies and very sick patients. Among other grievances, the staff was complaining about shortage of staff, shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), shortage of medication and non-payment of overtime duties. The strike affected various areas of the hospital services including multidisciplinary team's morning visit to patients and incapacitating the health facility's operations in many ways. "We are driven to do this by the hospital management. We downed tools because we demand better working conditions," said one of the staff members who did not want to be named.

She described the hospital situation as dire as a result of maladministration. "The CEO is incapable to run the hospital properly. The hospital has a serious shortage of staff and currently operating with only 40% of the actual employee capacity, forcing nurses to perform duties that are supposed to be carried out by general workers. Just imagine nurses start by cleaning in the wards before they can attend to patients, this is pathetic," she said. She said things won't be better unless the hospital CEO, Matome Lebea vacates the office. "We have tried to talk to him (Lebea) about the conditions but he is always rude and ignorant. He is incompetent, we need him to go along with the clinical and risk managers. Things will be better under the new management," she said. She vowed that they will not return to their duties as long as Lebea is still CEO of the hospital. Mpumalanga Party Spokesperson, Fana Masinga, said the political organization is in full support of the striking workers. "We support them because their complaints are genuine and the poor service at the hospital affect our communities," he said.

Masinga said engagements with the management bore no fruits as the CEO was always not available when called to the meeting. "This institution render essential service and



Philadelphia Hospital staff members picketing outside the hospital premises complaining about maladministration and poor working conditions.

we will not allow it to be mismanaged in any way because it affect residents badly. It is worrisome to see the hospital being in shortage of medication urging the poor to consult private doctors or ending up spending their last money on medication. We demand proper management to run the hospital," he said.

Limpopo Health Department Spokesperson Neil Shikwambana, described what was happening at Philadelphia Hospital as hooliganism. "You cannot have a situation where workers blocking their fellow workers who want to work and also refusing patients

to receive healthcare service saying they are embarking on a strike," said Shikwambana. He said protests in this country are governed by laws and key among those is that they should not impede on the rights of others. "Whatever concerns that these employees might be having, we have forums wherein employees raise their concerns about any matter affecting the hospital," Shikwambana said. He said they cannot allow anyone to render the hospital ungovernable because they are infringing on the rights of other people to access healthcare services.

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Specials from 12 March up to and including 15 April 2021. Pictures are only for illustration. T's and C's apply.

Limpopo on track to defeat Covid-19

According to the Premier of Limpopo Stanley Mathabatha, there is evidence that the province is beginning to win the war against Covid-19. Mathabatha made the statement during the State of the Province Address (SOPA) held at Provincial Legislature in Lebowakgomo recently. "In January, the highest number of recorded daily infections exceeded two thousand. In the last few weeks, we saw a sharp decline. Our daily cases are now between 90 and hundred. This is a significant milestone," he said. However, Mathabatha emphasized that the province still have to win more battles before it can win the war against Covid-19, part of these battles being an effective roll-out of the vaccine. "The province aim to vaccinate around 44 500 healthcare and related services workers. This includes workers from non-governmental organizations that provide healthcare related services. An overwhelming number of our healthcare workers are ready, willing, and excited to take part in the Phase One of the Covid-19 vaccine rollout. Our healthcare machinery is equally ready for the vaccine rollout in line with the national plan," he said. The premier said they have also been at work to empower the people of Limpopo with correct information about Covid-19 vaccination. "This is important to counter the conspiracies and misinformation perpetuated mainly in the social media space about the vaccines," he said. Mathabatha outlined that as part of Phase One rollout, they will use all the hospitals, excluding specialized ones, as vaccination site and as vaccination training centres for all the clinics in the catchment areas. "Each district has established mobile vaccination teams attached to the hospitals. Districts are working to ensure that all vaccination mobile teams are well-equipped to conduct Phase One vaccination," explained Mathabatha. He said they have the capacity to conduct and complete Phase One of the vaccination process within two to three weeks. "We are working on increasing this capacity to reduce the Phase One rollout period. We had a successful launch of the Phase One of our Covid-19 vaccine rollout campaign. All indications are that our rollout of the first phase is a resounding success," he said. The premier said four thousand healthcare workers have been vaccinated so far. So far we have vaccinated over four thousand healthcare workers. "Phase Two of the rollout will focus on high-risk groups. This includes persons in congregate settings, such as people in correctional facilities, people 60 years and older, and persons with co-morbidities. The second phase will also focus on other essential workers, such as the teachers, police, security officers, food and retail workers, workers in funeral parlours, employees of banks and mineworkers," emphasized Mathabatha. He said Phase Three of the Covid-19 vaccine rollout will target almost everyone not covered in the first two phases. The premier said the focus is now on measures to alleviate the devastating Covid-19 impact on the economy. "We will focus on the programmes to reposition Limpopo on a trajectory of inclusive socio-economic recovery, development, and growth. Through partnerships, focused attention and hard work, our economy will rise from the ashes of the devastation caused by the coronavirus. We will rebuild our economy. We will rebuild the destroyed livelihoods. Above all, we will forge ahead to a destination of a better life for all," said Mathabatha.

07 March

2021



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF

HEALTH

TOTAL CASES = 61898

RECOVERIES = 59612

DEATHS = 1917

ACTIVE CASES = 369

DISTRICTS	Local Municipality	Cumulative	Active	Recoveries	Deaths
SEKHUKHUNE	Elias Motsoaledi	2084	10	2011	63
	Ephraim Mogale	660	3	647	10
	Fetakgomo Tubatse	3028	42	2924	62
	Makhuduthamaga	1708	13	1620	75
IN TRANSIT CASES		44	0	44	0
UNALLOCATED		25	1	24	0
LIMPOPO		61898	369	59612	1917

SDM condemns vandalism of water infrastructure

Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) said it is facing a growing scourge of vandalism across the municipality which had resulted in the institution losing millions of Rands to the illegal acts. According to the district municipality, the latest incident took place at Ngwaritsi Village outside Monsterlus where an electricity transformer at a water pump station was deliberately burned by unknown people. "We are worried about the increasing number of incidents where people are destroying municipality infrastructure which is aiming to provide services to people around the villages," said SDM Spokesperson Moloko Moloto. He said the evidence points out that the vandals are mainly disgruntled community members who are complaining about services. "What happens is, people who vandalize the infrastructure are mostly disgruntling communities residing in newly established villages who demand municipal services immediately, which is not possible because we first have to allocate a budget before we can take services to them," he said. Moloto added that other vandalism happens when people engage in service delivery protests, ending up damaging the same municipality infrastructure that provides services. "This is challenging because we have to resort to replacing the vandalized infrastructure with the small budget we have instead of using the money to take services to the people. People should understand that this is the reason we experience a backlog in services because we have to channel the money elsewhere," he said. Moloto said curbing the problem in vast areas such as in the villages proved fruitless as fellow community members fail to report perpetrators who tamper with the municipality infrastructure. "For example, in Ngwaritsi, we have evidence that the transformer was tampered with previously and no one came forward to report the perpetrators until recently when it was burned down, ending up hindering the municipality's concerted efforts to supply water to the villages served by the pump station," he said. Furthermore, Moloto indicated that illegal connection of water and electricity has continued unabated across the district municipality leaving thousands of residents without water. "Such acts had dire consequences as they interrupt water supply to certain areas. People should know that each water infrastructure carries a capacity to supply a specific population or households at a time," Moloto detailed. Moloto urged residents to refrain from the acts as vandalism of water infrastructure is among the worst offences perpetrated by those who have criminal intent. "People should be more vigilant, protect and safeguard the municipality infrastructure and report those who collude with or assist others to vandalize the system, everyone should take charge. I can assure that we have already opened cases against the perpetrators," he said.



Ron Joseph, from Hoerskool Ben Viljoen in Groblersdal was announced as the fourth best learner in the 2020 matric top achievers in Limpopo Province.

Ben Viljoen 2020 matriculates defy the odds

Despite facing a difficult year as a result of Covid-19 pandemic, the class of 2020 matriculants at Hoerskool Ben Viljoen in Groblersdal defied the odds and did wonders in their matric results. Besides the fact that some of learners have been overwhelmed by disruptions during the 2020 academic year, the school has achieved a 95% pass rate with 132 distinctions obtained in a total of 132 matric learners. "It works out as an average of one distinction per learner. When we look at the uncertainty that prevailed during the 2020 academic year, we are extremely privileged and proud of every learner with their results," said the school in a statement. Ben Viljoen is currently among the top 3 best performing schools in Limpopo Province in the category of Technological and Engineering School. The school's Divan Venter, was named by MEC for Education Polly Boshieo as the top achiever in the category subjects contributing to economic welfare in the province for mechanical technology division, welding. In the category of top 10 best achievers in public schools in the province, Ben Viljoen's Ron Joseph was named the 4th best learner after achieving 8 distinctions. Ron said his achievements are motivated by an ability to dream big and aiming for the sky. "But while you keep your eyes on the stars, it is important to keep your feet on the ground. I'm thankful for the support I received from those around me including family, friends and teachers," he said. Ron is a younger brother to Leon, a former Ben Viljoen pupil who achieved 9 distinctions in 2016 and named among the top three best performing learners in Limpopo. "My brother showed me that an achievement like this was possible. My parents pushed me to be the best version of myself," he said. Ron said he is eyeing his sights to become a software developer after studying computer engineering at the University of Pretoria. "Never give up and always believe in yourself. Work smart not hard, that is a motto I have stood by," motivated Ron.

Accountability sessions for underperforming schools gets underway

Following the release of the 2020 matric results, the Limpopo Department of Education has announced that accountability sessions for underperforming districts, circuits and schools is currently underway. The sessions have started on Monday 1 March by MEC for Education in the province Polly Boshieo. The sessions were influenced by poor performance of Limpopo Province, which achieved 68.2% pass rate ranking number 7 nationally. According to the department, three out of ten districts in the province performed below 65 percent and it is in this regard that there is an urgent need, right in the beginning of the school year to engage on among other things, reasons for underperformance, interventions that were implemented and the strategies to be employed to improve results and get out of underperformance. The underperformed districts were Sekhukhune South, Sekhukhune East and Capricorn North. Three schools failed to produce a single matric pass in Sekhukhune in the 2020 academic year. The schools are Kanama Secondary School in Mabulane Circuit, Makidi Secondary School also in Mabulane Circuit and Ngoatoanape Secondary School in Lepelle Circuit. "We have to understand their challenges directly so that we can bring about the necessary targeted interventions," said MEC Boshieo. She said the department require all districts, circuits and schools to pull their weight and contribute to the provincial pass rate. "We have to appropriate the necessary support throughout the academic year under the current circumstances of Covid-19," said Boshieo. She indicated that these sessions also include top 5 principals of the best performing schools per district, who will share best practices with all schools that underperformed. "This meant to sharpen strategies that will see schools across the province performing as required," she said. Meanwhile Boshieo have on Tuesday 9 March launched the School Governing Body (SGB) elections programme that is taking place every three years. Representatives of parents, learners, educators, school support staff and principals are making up this structure in all public ordinary and public special schools. According to Boshieo, this year's elections programme has been extended to run from 1 March to 30 April to allow for adequate advocacy and preparation after the delay of schools.

Sekhukhune

State of the District Address

SODA

Alert Level 1
2021

www.sekhukhunedistrict.gov.za

Executive Mayor
Cllr Keamotseng Stanley Ramaila

Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Keamotseng Stanley Ramaila invites you to the State of the District Address 2021 that will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday, 25 March 2021

Time: 12:00

Venue: Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, Groblersdal, Agricultural Hall

To comply with Alert level 1 COVID-19 regulations, only 35 invited guests will be allowed inside the council venue

Members of the public and all stakeholders can follow a live broadcast of the Extra Special Council Meeting on "The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune" Facebook page or listen live on the following community radio stations: 1. Sekhukhune FM, 2. Moutse Community Radio, 3. Masemola FM, 4. Thabantshe Community Radio, 5. Tubatse FM

ENQUIRIES:
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Events Officer Cel: 082 257 7856
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SMMEs receive much needed uplift

The South African Local government Association (SALGA) in conjunction with Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality handed over shopping vouchers to fourteen Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) to manufacture cloth masks to strengthen the fight against Covid-19.

The vouchers that worth R3 157-00, were handed over to the beneficiaries at official ceremony took place at the municipality chamber in Groblersdal on Thursday 4 March. Speaking during the hand over, the Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, Cllr Julia Mathebe, said the initiative forms part of the municipality's relief efforts to help alleviate negative impact of Covid-19 pandemic to SMMEs. "This is part of the government's commitment to empower and support SMMEs as they contribute largely to poverty alleviation and the economy," she said. A beneficiary, Matete Mankwane Maila of Agishanang Begesu Primary Co-operative Limited at Unit A in Monsterlus, said the voucher will help their business to grow. "We are going to buy cloths to manufacture more masks and winter clothes for school children," she said. Maila said some of the portion of the voucher will be spent toward contributing in the Women Rural Movement Organization that distribute masks freely to needy community members. "This is



The Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality Cllr Julia Mathebe (left), during the handover of the vouchers at Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality Chamber in Groblersdal.

much needed help we were waiting for. We thank SALGA and Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality for the necessary support they provided to our businesses," she said. Another beneficiary, Lekgomesana Annah Mashao, from Motetema Township said she will be using the voucher to buy more sewing material and boost her business.

"I am a fashion designer and my business is very slow these days because social gatherings are prohibited in the period of Covid-19. The voucher will help me explore and seek other opportunities while busy manufacturing masks to help the community. I am happy with the support by SALGA and Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality," she said.

Residents up-in arms against flawed RDP housing project

The community of Leeufontein in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Ward 8 demands answers about unfinished RDP houses in the area.

The project was commissioned three years ago to benefit poor families in the township and was never completed. The construction was abandoned by the contractor who only finished six houses, leaving ten roofless. A community leader, who did not want to be named and also member of the Ward 8 Concerned Residents Group, said the contractor disappeared after he was paid hundreds of thousands of Rands in advance to complete the job, but leaving the project in despair. "The construction stopped three years ago and we demand to know why the project is abandoned without finding any answers," he said. He blames the ward council-

lor for allocating the only completed houses to his friends and failing to convene a community meeting to explain about the state of the unfinished RDP houses. "The only people who got the houses are those are connected to the ward councillor. The beneficiaries who applied for houses ten years ago are left stranded in dilapidating houses and shacks. It is shocking that some completed houses were even allocated to people working in the municipality," he explained. He said beneficiaries are now deciding to complete the houses on their own as they are now partially vandalized. "This is the only solution as the unoccupied structures are now vandalized and we fear that criminals can use them as a hide-out place after victimizing the same community," he said.

Furthermore, the community leader said RDP houses in other sections of the township are being occupied by undocumented foreign nationals who illegally bought the houses. "The sad part is that a decade long wait for the beneficiaries is leaving them to live in dilapidated thatched huts, muddled houses with leaking roofs while undocumented foreign nationals occupy their houses in a section called Maputo in the township. Nobody is doing anything about the situation. Even the law enforcement authorities know but nothing has been done," he said. Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Ward 8 Councillor, George Makanyane, denied allocating houses to friends and families. "The approval and allocation of the houses is done by the Cogesta Department and has nothing to do with local government. Our only duty is to compile a database of RDP applicants and send it to the relevant department for approval," he said. Makanyane indicated that the ten incomplete houses are not part of ward 8 due to ward demarcation. However, he said, beneficiaries of the houses are residing in his ward and they know about the delay of the project. "The project was halted after the contractor was fired as he was lacking capacity to complete the houses.

The new contractor was appointed around November 2020 and currently on site to complete the houses in other villages because Leeufontein is not the only area that was affected. I can assure you the houses will be completed soon," he said.

MOUTSE MALL DONATES 600 PAIRS OF SCHOOL SHOES TO MARAPONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



The handover of 600 pairs of school shoes to scholars attending Marapong Primary School in Dennilton took place on Friday the 5th of March 2021.

Barefoot No More school shoes are unique, locally manufactured school shoes which are durable and easy to maintain, do not require shoe polish, and can stretch to accommodate growing feet. Each pair of school shoes is donated in a book bag together with a stationery set.

"This project makes a big difference in my community. There is high unemployment and a large number of families depend on social grants. Some of the children don't have school shoes so you can imagine how they feel getting a brand-new pair of school shoes," says Hitler Makhumisane, Moutse Mall Centre Manager.

Moutse Mall has donated 6 744 pairs of school shoes to scholars in the Dennilton community since 2016. For further information about the Barefoot No More Project, please visit www.capland.co.za.

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ATM blasted at Moteti

The Police in Dennilton have launched a massive manhunt for the suspects involved in an ATM bombing incident that occurred on Tuesday 2 March 2021 at Moteti Top Spot Shopping Complex. According to Brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, on the day of the incident around 2 am, about ten men, armed with rifles, stormed in the shopping complex, blasting the ATM and fled with an undisclosed amount of money. An eyewitness, Tharollo Nonyane, told the paper that he was at the shopping complex filling station when he heard a terrible blast coming from the Pick n Pay supermarket. "When I went to check what was happening, another blast went off and I saw about ten heavily armed men next to the ABSA ATM. That's when I've realized the ATM was robbed," he said. He added that the suspects started shooting randomly and motorists, who were going to fill up their tanks and drove for cover. "It was like in the movies, the incident lasted for just a few minutes before the criminals fled the scene. This is one of the days I will never forget. One thing that came in my mind was that if the police arrive, a heavy crossfire battle will ensue but the criminals were very quick and fled just before police vans arrive," he said. Mojapelo said cases of malicious damage to property and theft were opened at Dennilton Police Station and no arrests were made. "Anyone with information that can lead to the arrest of these suspects, may contact the crime stop number 0860010111 or the nearest Police Station," he said.

Poetry extraordinaire a pride of Sekhukhune

Sepedi poet, Matalane Mokgatla, is an extraordinary young man who serves as an inspiration to youth.

Mokgatla, from Mohlaletse Village in Sekhukhune, is a multitasking African praise poet, dancer, actor, programme director, motivational speaker, model, athlete and an author who researches and writes custom content. The multi award winning poet is an ambassador for the Bapedi nation in which he prides himself by documenting the Bapedi culture and taking it to the public through events and social media. "I decided to express myself with Sepedi culture, which is my mother tongue to make an impact and teach young people about their roots. I'm simply promoting my culture," he said. In 2019, the young poet was recognized by NYDA (National Youth Development Agency) and Inside Education as one of the young people who are making a difference in South Africa by preserving culture. He also launched his Sepedi Folklore debut book titled, "Sebešongsa Matalane", which was recommended for Gauteng School Libraries by the province MEC of Education Panyaza Lesufi, a Sepedi children rhymes book co-authored by Dr Connie Makgabo who is a Sepedi lecturer at University of Pretoria titled "Dikošana Tša Bana eleta monono", which comprises a love short story. Among his recent achievements, Mokgatla scooped the best Sepedi poet at the Sepedi Music Awards in December 2020. He gets invitations from schools where he teaches and encourages learners about the importance of reading, writing and speaking their respective native languages. In these programs, he also plays indigenous games with the learners.



Matalane Mokgatla is an inspiration who prides himself to showcase Bapedi nation culture.

"Currently, I am recommended to work with Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality and Sekhukhune District Municipality to teach people to preserve their culture. The programme will be running jointly with other poets and artists in the country," he said. Mokgatla is the ambassador of Bapedi ancestral flower (a flower that has a strong Bapedi identity) appointed by TUPS city agro-economy centre. He is the official praise poet and ambassador for Sekhukhune United FC and also serves as a social cohesion advocate in the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture duly appointed by Minister Nathi Mthethwa. He is the visionary behind the Bapedi cultural village in which the Bapedi culture and heritage resources will be preserved and commercialized.

Orange wins at LD Motor Spares

LD Motor Spares in Groblersdal held a February competition where a lucky client could win a R1 000 fuel voucher. All that the clients needed to do was buy for more than R500 and enter. James "Orange" Dlamini from Motetema was the winner. James, a regular client, was surprised to be the winner. Here Hlanganane Ndlovu from LD Motor Spares hands James his price. If you need spares in Groblersdal you only need to go to LD Motor Spares in Van Riebeeck street. They are open 7 days a week. Tel: 082 720 1908 or 082 397 6987.



The wreckage of the ABSA ATM that was blasted at Moteti Top Spot Shopping Complex.

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Car hijacking suspects denied bail

Two suspects, Duncan Nyakane (35) and Freddy Madisha (34), who were arrested in connection with the alleged hijacking of a courier van along the R37 Road near Malomane Village outside Jane Furse on Tuesday 2 March, have appeared before the Polokwane Magistrate's Court on Friday 5 March and were denied bail. The pair is facing charges of possession of suspected stolen property and car hijacking. Their case was postponed to Friday 5 March for formal bail application and further police investigation. According to the police report, their arrests emanated after the police received information about car hijacking who were hiding at Ext 44 in Greenside, Westenburg area outside Polokwane. "It is alleged that a group of armed suspects traveling in a VW Polo, hijacked a courier van that was on its way to deliver a cargo of cellphones and electronic gadgets to various businesses around Apel outside Jane Furse," said Brigadier MotlafelaMojapelo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. Mojapelo said the police were notified and a manhunt ensued, leading to the arrest of the duo in the house at Westenburg. "During their arrest, one of the suspects was found in possession of unlicensed firearm and ammunition. The second suspect was arrested while hiding in the ceiling and two firearms and ammunition were found in his possession," said Mojapelo. He said the house was further searched and a large number of cellphones and several other electronic gadgets with the estimated value of over R300 000 were recovered. The VW Polo believed to be used during the hijacking was also confiscated. "More arrests are still expected as the police investigations are unfolding. Anyone with information that can lead to the arrest of the remaining suspects involved in this matter is requested to contact Lt Colonel Richard Boshomane on 079 894 5501. They can also contact the Crime Stop Number on 08600 10111 or make use of MySAPSApp or the nearest police station," said Ngoepe.

And the winner is... Our first FB friend winner

Lebogang "Leeyonce" Mohlahlals is the winner in our "Face book like and picture" competition for the month of February 2021. Lebogang, lives in Tafelkop, took a picture with the Dispatch newspaper and placed it on our Face book page on the 23 of February 2021 (go and have a look). She won herself a whopping R500 cash. All you need to do to stand a chance to win the money is take the Dispatch (the largest community newspaper in Sekhukhune), and take a picture with it and place it on our Face book page. Tag all your friends for added chances and see. Every month a winner will be drawn on the last day. Our competition for March is already on the way and everybody is welcome to enter.



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Limpopo Sports Confederation marks 100 days in office

Since its election at Boeketlong Lodge in Jane Furse, in Sekhukhune District on Sunday 22 November 2020, the executive committee of Limpopo Sports Confederation (LSC) has been synonymous and true to its motto, "Excelling through Excellence". This was witnessed when the confederation marks 100 days on Tuesday 2 March 2021, when its President, Ally Pole, announce that the collective is now globally recognized as an important yardstick for a leadership distinction. "The tradition of marking 100 days in office started in 1933 during the most challenging Presidency Franklin D. Roosevelt. The first hundred days is a sample of the first measure of testing the election promise against the reality on the ground during the first term presidency. To many leadership tenures, the first 100 days is used to measure the successes and accomplishments of a president during the time that their power and influence is at its greatest," he said. Pole said the collective leadership elected at Boeketlong, successfully worked on its visibility by building meaningful relationship with all the members, and the sports sector in the province. "We have taken stock of the database of sport federations and reached out to district confederations by giving guidance and support. Our executive committee has a dedicated portfolio tasked with helping the districts to take charge of sports development and elite participation at grassroots level," he said.

According to Pole, as a controlling body, they have strengthened their legislative and policy directing capacity by firming up amendments of new proposed constitution. The president added that among their milestone, LSC has succeeded in establishing the coaches and athletes commission and training of Covid-19 compliance officers across the 23 member federations. "The role of compliance officers was to safely return to the playing fields armed with consistent information about Covid-19 in line with national government's regulations. In terms of technological advancement and smart ways of conducting our business, the LSC has succeeded in holding executive committee meetings via zoom media platform with a relatively high success rate of 95% uninterrupted participation and constant quorum," explained Pole. He indicated that other technological ventures to be deepened include hosting a virtual workshop in the use of google forms for club or sport administration.

"LSC has proven to be more than just a controlling body but an agent of change and excellence in the Limpopo sporting landscape. This is attested by the fact that we successfully planned and coordinated programs with MEC for Sport Arts and Culture Mme Thandi Moraka. Owing to this fledgling partnership, the LSC is entrusted with collecting Covid-19 compliance officer detail per federation and further collecting activity programs and loss of income data per federation," he said. Pole said he is satisfied with progress made in the past 100 days in office, adding that they are looking forward to intensify partnership with stakeholders and reach a broader audience. "Looking back at our presidential manifesto at Boeketlong, I can safely say our 100 days in office are a collective head above shoulders in its unrelenting pursuit of excellence," concluded President Pole.



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Parallel joint operations nabs over 1000 suspects

The Limpopo Provincial Parallel joint clean-up operations, conducted across the province, arrested 1796 suspects.

The suspects, aged between 21 and 59, were arrested for various offences ranging from burglaries, business robberies, possession of suspected stolen motor vehicles, possession and dealing in drugs, possession of unlicensed firearms, Contravention of Disaster Management Act to contravention of the Immigration Act. Colonel Moatshe Ngoepe, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the operations were conducted in all districts of the province until Monday 8 March. "The operations which were conducted through roadblocks, patrols, stop and searches including tracing of wanted suspects, recovered a variety of items such as firearms, suspected stolen motor vehicles, counterfeit cigarettes, dangerous weapons including knives, dagga, dagga plants, cocaine drugs powder, crystal myth drugs, cat drugs, nyaope drugs, liquor and 1860 fines were issued for the contravention of the Road Traffic Act," detailed Ngoepe. He said the Saps Limpopo Highway Patrol Team has arrested sixty-nine (69) suspects during their ongoing cleanup operations which they conducted in Mankweng, Mahwelereng, Hlogotlou, Modjadiskloof, Thabazimbi and in other parts of Sekhukhune District. "One of the recovered vehicle in Thabazimbi was linked to the farm attack incident which occurred in the area," he said. Ngoepe indicated that in the Waterberg District, a 51-year-old man was arrested for car-hijacking, murder and business robbery during an intelligence driven joint operation that was conducted in the Tinmyne Policing area by the Saps Mokopane, the Crime Intelligence Unit, the Saps Tinmyne, Mahwelereng K9 Unit, Tracker SA and Tshwane Metro Police. "Tinmyne Police received information about a Ford Figo vehicle that was hijacked by three suspects in Tshwane. The suspects allegedly shot the driver who later succumbed to his injuries and drove away with his motor

vehicle. One suspect was arrested during the operations and linked to the crime," he said. Ngoepe added that two suspects, aged 25 and 27, were arrested by the Thohoyandou Crime Intelligence Unit, Thohoyandou TRT and the Vhembe District Detectives during the Tactical joint Operation which was conducted at various places to track down a group of armed suspects involved in a series of business robberies in the District. "The suspects were linked to seven cases of business and house robberies," he said. Ngoepe indicated that in one of the incidents, the two arrested suspects allegedly stormed at the filling station at about 23:55, midnight armed with different assortment of weapons. "They stabbed one of the petrol attendants with a sharp instrument, assaulted his colleagues and robbed them undisclosed amount of money before they fled the scene," explained Ngoepe. He said the suspects arrested during these operations are expected to appear before different magistrate's courts soon across the province. The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Nneke Ledwaba, has praised the sterling work done by the police throughout the province and he further urged for more determination and hard work in ensuring that the citizens of this province are safe.

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SDM Mayor welcomes new soccer team

The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Keamotseng Stanley Ramaila has welcomed Tshakuma Tsha Madzhivhandila (TTM) FC, following the team's relocation to Sekhukhune District.

The Dstv Premiership outfit was sold to Sekhukhune based businessman, Dr Ditonkana Abram Sello with a whooping R40 Million by previous owner, Lawrence Mulaudzi. This is after the club struggled financially and failed to pay players after purchasing the PSL status from Bidvest Wits. TTM joined Sekhukhune United, a National First Division outfit, to be the second team from Sekhukhune to compete in the PSL. The new Chairman of TTM, Dr Sello, is also the owner of Olezer FC, which takes part in the ABC Motsepe League. Executive Mayor Ramaila officially congratulated Dr Sello and wished him and the club well as they continue with their journey in the Dstv Premiership. "On behalf of the people of Sekhukhune District Municipality, we wish you everything of the best and we are fully behind you," said Ramaila.

The new chairman said he doesn't regret his decision and is hoping that buying the struggling PSL team will one day pay off. Sello moved the club from Venda to relocate and play their matches at Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane, as a result of lack of facilities in Sekhukhune.



The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Keamotseng Stanley Ramaila (Left), rubbing shoulders with the new chairman of TTM Dr Ditonkana Abram Sello when the executive mayor welcomes the Dstv Premiership outfit in the district.

Sekhukhune United appoints new Assistant Coach



Selaotse "Sly" Mosala was appointed a new assistant coach of Sekhukhune United FC.

Sekhukhune United FC has on Tuesday 2 March appointed Selaotse "Sly" Mosala as assistant to Head Coach Macdonald Makhubedu, the club said in a statement. According to the statement, the former TS Sporting FC Head Coach has established his coaching career in the ABC Motsepe League, National First Division (NFD) and Premier Soccer League (PSL). He joined Sekhukhune United from Pretoria Callies having helped them to be promoted

to the GaldAfrica Championship League, working as an assistant coach," reads the statement. The club stated that the new assistant coach is a well-travelled coach, having worked in many leagues across South Africa.

"He comes as a highly qualified and experienced coach who will add value in any league," the statement said. In his acceptance speech, Mosala said he is delighted to have joined Sekhukhune United coaching staff. "I am thrilled to be joining this exciting team and I hope to make an important contribution to the club's successes going forward," he said. The club Executive Chairman, Simon Malatji, was delighted to welcome Mosala to the "BabinaNoko" coaching side. "We are looking forward to have him play a pivotal role as we return to the second round of the GladAfrica Championship. We welcome him to "BabinaNoko" family," he said.

Sekhukhune United is currently sitting in the second position in the GladAfrica Championship having played 16 matches with 27 points. The team is just behind Richards Bay FC that played 16 matches with 28 points in the log standings.

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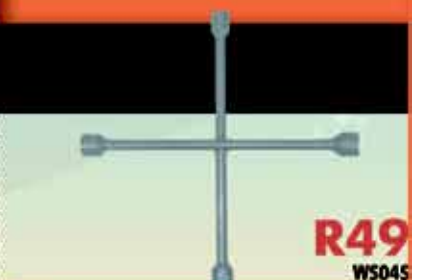
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