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Hi-tech alarm system to fight crime in Moutse

Following the recent spike of criminal activities in Moutse Villages, a new device called Memeza Panic Button was introduced to the communities. Hundreds of Memeza Panic Buttons were donated by Cape Land Properties to Dennilton and other parts of the country to contribute towards the fight against crime in the communities. The Memeza Panic Button system is a home alarm initiative that contributes towards the prevention and fight against crime. The Memeza home alarm can be activated either manually, through a remote control, or automatically when an individual unlawfully enters the house. When triggered, the alarm's system will generate SMSs to the local police sector vans, Community policing Forum (CPF) personnel and any other persons nominated by the home owner. Simultaneously, the alarm's bright red light will flash. That will enable SMS recipients and passers-by to easily identify the house where help is sought. Accord-

ing to a community leader, Ali Maloba, who is piloting the Memeza project to the community, said they saw a need to introduce the system to fight crime after a spiking number of house break-ins and burglaries. "Crime statistics in Dennilton are increasing and folding our arms is not a solution. We are distributing the panic button to interested community members," he said. Maloba said they have started a roadshow which is aiming at distributing hundreds of Memeza Panic Buttons to cover various parts of Moutse. "The priority is given to senior citizens because they are the most vulnerable group," he said. Maloba said the panic button will be directly linked with Dennilton Community Policing Forums, neighbours, family, friends and the Dennilton SAPS. "It must be noted that this is a pilot project and at the same time we are conducting a feasibility study, therefore, it is impossible to extend it to other villages. Will only do so after we have passed all the implementation phases, which includes panic buttons connected to our main server which will be stationed at Dennilton SAPS," explained Maloba. Maloba said in the long run, a server linked to Dennilton SAPS will be developed and every household will be registered and activated on the server.

Residents of Dennilton in Moutse showing off their Memeza Panic Buttons that they will be using to fight the scourge of crime in the area.



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Cable theft incidents alarming in Dennilton

Eskom Technical Services in Elandsdoorn, Dennilton, have announced that it will soon be considering charging customers for stolen cable replacement, following a spiking number of cable theft in the area. According to the power utility, the community is going to be charged only if they fail to protect their cables connected in their houses, as the replacement cost are not budgeted for. Eskom stated that according to their records, cable theft statistics in Dennilton indicate that not less than ten cable theft cases are reported at its Elandsdoorn Eskom Technical office in a period of less than a week. A community leader, Ali Maloba,



An Eskom employee replacing a stolen cable at one of the houses in Dennilton after it was stolen by cable thieves.

said cable theft is rampant in Dennilton and they continue to witness a steep increase of the incidents in the area and other neighbouring villages. "This is a clear indication that we have a syndicate operating in our area, therefore, it is high time we start working towards activation of neighbourhood watch in all villages," he said. Another community leader, Christopher Malope, told the Dispatch publication that cable theft crime has reached unprecedented levels in Dennilton. "Many of the incidents take place at night, especially during load shedding and load reduction periods when it is dark and quiet. We have also seen particular spikes of similar incidents in our neighbouring villages where the criminals strip off cables from residents' homes," he said. Malope said they have tried to report suspicious people who might be the ones committing the crimes but the police are doing nothing to investigate them. "We are told by the police to bring evidence forward before they can arrest the perpetrators," he said. According to Malope, the high unemployment rate among young people in Moutse contributes towards spiking of criminal activities including cable theft.

Wife and boyfriend get life sentences for husband's murder

A woman and her boyfriend have been sentenced to life imprisonment after plotting the murder of the woman's husband in 2017. The two accused, Glenrose Vuyela Ramaepadi (41) and her 43-year-old boyfriend, Sewisha Johannes Mphego, were each sentenced to life imprisonment by the Limpopo Division of the High Court in Polokwane on Friday 12 November 2021, for the brutal murder of 57-year-old David Ramaepadi, who was Glenrose's husband. According to Brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the duo was in a relationship when they plotted to kill the wife's husband and hired a hitman. "On Saturday 22 July 2017, the hitman carried out the deadly action and shot the deceased while at his home at Ga-Matodi Village outside Jane Furse. A case of murder was opened and the police commenced with initial investigations, where a manhunt for the suspects ensued. The case was later transferred to the Provincial Investigating Unit and assigned to Sergeant Qunani Mgabine," he said. Mojapelo added that the two accused and the hitman were arrested, unfortunately during the trial, the hitman mysteriously died while in jail and the two accused were released after the case was struck off the roll due to lack of evidence. "Following thorough investigations by Sergeant Mgabine, the pair was positively linked to the murder, and they were re-arrested and subsequently convicted," he said. Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Limpopo Police Provincial Commissioner, commended the relentless efforts and determination manifested by the investigating officer which led to the hefty sentence and ensuring that justice prevailed.



Glenrose Vuyela Ramaepadi Sewisha Johannes Mphego

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More arrests expected in Sekhukhuneover VBS saga

The HAWKS have arrested three suspects who were attached with the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM) in Sekhukhune for their alleged involvement in the VBS Mutual Bank investment saga. The trio, Nkhono Johannes Mohlala (57), former municipal manager

of FTLM, Tumelo Given Ratau (39), former chief financial officer at the municipality and KeaobakaRemigiousKgatitoe (41), the owner of Kelotlhoko Property Services, were arrested at their homes in Pretoria on Tuesday 16 November. The suspects face charges of corruption, money laundering and contravening Section 173 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, after the local municipality invested R230 Million with the mutual bank. "The investigation revealed that Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality invested an amount of R230 Million, which was paid in five batches from 15 November 2016 to 19 February 2018. The whole amount invested was never paid back to the municipality," said HAWKS Spokesperson Nomthandazo Mbambo. Mbambo said the three suspects appeared before the Pretoria Specialised Commercial Crimes Court on Wednesday 17 November on charges of Contravention of Section 173 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 for corruption and money laundering. "They were granted a R50 000 bail each and will appear again on 1 March 2022," Mbambo said. Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Mogale are other local municipalities in Sekhukhune that invested multi-million rands with the VBS. Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality registered an impairment amounting to R84 Million, while Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality claim they managed to withdraw its investment before the bank collapsed, but lost R48 000 in interest. The two Sekhukhune local municipalities are also under investigation. The investment affected service delivery negatively and caused much community unrest in the villages of Sekhukhune. Seventeen people have been arrested so far in connection with the unlawful investment with the mutual bank. Among the arrested suspects is the bank's former CFO Philip Truter, who pleaded guilty to several charges, including theft, corruption, fraud and money laundering last year. Truter received a reduced sentence as he agreed to turn state witness against his 14 former co-defendants in the main trial. The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Sekhukhune welcomed the arrests and said it will serve as an example to other criminals who aim to loot state money for self-gain. "This has put severe strain on the municipality's ability to deliver services to communities. The basic



Former FTLM Nkhono Johannes Mohlala, was arrested by the HAWKS in relation with his involvement in the investment of R230 Million at VBS Mutual Bank.

service delivery and infrastructure development and the local economic development objectives of the municipality can still not be fully met due to the lack of funds," said Risham Maharaj, Acting DA Provincial Spokesperson for COGHSTA.

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Bahula re-elected Makhuduthamaga Municipality Mayor

The council of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality has re-elected Cllr MinahBahula as the Mayor of the local municipality in the fifth council term, to lead political changes for the next five years. Bahula was elected during the first special council meeting, held at Ga-Masemola Sports Grounds outside Jane Furse on Monday 22 November. Maite Judy Mphelane was elected the fifth council Speaker while MosediThamaga elected as the Chiefwhip of the council. Addressing the people just after she was inaugurated, Bahula thanked the ANC for giving her another chance to lead the local municipality. "I am grateful that the ANC has trust in me. God will be guiding me to lead this community for the next five years," she said. Bahula urged all elected councillors to commit themselves to take services to the people. The ANC got the outright majority in the municipality and qualified for seven Executive Committee (EXCO) seats, with the EFF following with three EXCO seats.



Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr MinahBahula, was re-elected to lead the municipality during the special council meeting held at Ga-Masemola Sports Grounds outside Jane Furse.

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EFF factions decry violence in local municipality

Tension erupted among EFF members at the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Offices in Marble Hall on Monday 22 November, when disgruntled party members attended the first council sitting to disrupt the swearing-in of the party's PR councillors in the local municipality. The members were complaining about nepotism practices levelled against party's Regional Chairperson, LencelKomane, who they claim he allocated PR council seats to family and friends who were not included in the party's list before the local government election. A group of over 300 unhappy EFF members arrived at the municipality offices early in the morning to block the party's PR councillors who were about to be sworn-in in the municipality during the day. They vowed to disrupt the council if the councillors featured in the list submitted by Komane are sworn-in. Party Provincial Chairperson, Joseph Buthane, who heard about the planned disruptions in Ephraim Mogale, intervened along with EFF members from his branch in Polokwane to calm the angry members down. However, the disgruntled members tried to attack the chairperson accusing him of siding with Komane. A fight broke out between the two factions where fist blows were exchanged between the crowd and Buthane's group. The community dispersed after several shots were fired allegedly by Buthane's group. A security guard was reportedly brutally assaulted in the process and was rushed to hospital. Kgobise Setlamorago, EFF Chairperson in Ephraim Mogale Ward 8, said they were complaining because the PR list submitted by the regional chairperson is not in line with the guidelines of the party, which states clearly that members who got higher percentage in the election will be featured in the PR list. "Some of those nominated by the regional chairperson got only 4 percent in the overall election results in their wards while those who got more than 30 percent were not included," he said. Similar incidents where EFF members prevented fellow party councillors to swear-in were also experienced at Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality offices in Groblersdal on Tuesday 16 November. During the council proceedings, a group of aggrieved EFF members, blocked entry to the party's PR councillors who were about to be sworn-in at the municipality. However, other political party councillors were sworn-in during the day. According to EFF members, a court order was issued on Sunday 21 November to request for the postponement of organization's councillors until the issue of the PR list is resolved. It was confirmed that Elias Motsoaledi sworn-in EFF PR councillors despite the court order presented to the municipal manager. The disgruntled members claim the action is a serious violation of the court order and indicated that steps will be taken against the local municipality and the councillors will be forced to resign. The political party's Regional Chairperson, LencelKomane, told the Dispatch publication that the PR list was issued in the province. He said the members should have followed correct procedure to complain instead of resorting to violent protests and preventing councillors to take their vows in the municipalities.

New Mayor for Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality

Former Elias Local Municipality Speaker, Cllr Magetle David Tladi, was elected the new Mayor of the local municipality. Tladi was nominated and elected unopposed during the first special council meeting held at the municipality premises in Groblersdal on Monday 22 November. He will be succeeding former Mayor Cllr Julia Mathebe who was eyeing the position of being the executive mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality. Dieketseng Masesi Mashego, was elected the new Speaker of Elias Motsoaledi Council while Justice Makunyane was elected the new Chief Whip of the council. Elias Motsoaledi Ward 6 Councillor Ndumiso Ndlovu, was elected Chairperson of the Municipal Public Account Committee (MPAC). Political parties represented in Elias Motsoaledi Council includes African National Congress (ANC-36 seats), Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF-14 seats), Democratic Alliance (DA-4 seats), Bolshevik Party of South Africa (BPSA-2 seats), Mpumalanga Party (MP-2 seats), VF plus (1-seat), Answer for the Community (1-seat) and Dennilton Residents Association (DRA-1 seat). Speaking during the swearing-in Tladi committed that the new council will focus on delivery of basic services, as the core function of the local municipality.

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Teenager goes missing in Dennilton

The police in Dennilton have launched a search operation following the disappearance of a 17-year-old teenage girl who went missing on Monday 18 October 2021. ThandazaSimangeleShabangu, who is a Grade 9 learner at Kolofane Secondary School, has disappeared from her home at Kirkvorsfontein A in Dennilton, Moutse. "She allegedly went out of the house to relieve herself at about 22:00 in the evening and has since disappeared.

The family then reported her missing on Thursday 11 November 2021," said Lieutenant Colonel MamphaswaSeabi, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. Seabi said police efforts to locate the victims at relatives and friends, including surrounding areas were not successful."She was last seen wearing white short pair of trousers, a black short sleeve t-shirt, black sandals and wrapped in a blue and white fleece blanket. Police investigation continues," he said.

Seabi said anyone with information that can assist to locate the whereabouts of the missing teenager, is requested to contact the investigating officer, Sergeant OupaThusago on 082303 9907/013983 0110, crime stop number 08600 10111, the nearest police station or to make use of MySAPSApp.



The Dennilton Police request the public to locate the whereabouts of the missing teenager, ThandazaSimangeleShabangu (17), who was never seen since Monday 18 October 2021.

Help to locate missing elderly man

The Police in Magatleoutside Marble Hall have launched a search operation following the disappearance of a 74-year-old man, Mokhatshana Maluleke from Ga-Molapo Village. According to the police report, the victim went missing on Monday 8 November 2021 and was never seen since."The victim allegedly left home at about 08:30 in the morning, without informing his family where he was going

and has since disappeared," said Warrant Officer MaroboSeabela, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. Seabela said the victim was last seen wearing a sky blue long sleeve shirt, navy blue pair of trousers and white & blue sneakers. "He is tall and dark in complexion. Police tried to locate him at friends, relatives and nearby villages with no success. Police investigation continues," explained Seabela. He appealed to anyone with information that can assist to find the elderly man to contact the investigating officer, Warrant Officer Mathamela on 072 889 1636/082 445 9614, crime stop number on 0860010111, the nearest police station or make use of MySAPSApp.



The missing 74-year-old elderly citizen, Mokhatshana Maluleke from Ga-Molapo Village, disappeared on Monday 8 November 2021 and was never seen since.

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vice delivery. After the official opening, Minister Cele led a community Imbizo, hosted in the Monsterlus Stadium, which saw residents engage the Police Ministry, the Deputy Minister of Police Cassel Mathale and SAPS top management, on the identified crimes plaguing the community. Monsterlus has a 70 percent unemployment rate and has recorded a high number of contact crimes such as murder, aggravated assault, rape and robbery. Addressing the Imbizo, hundreds of residents filled the Monsterlus Stadium to full capacity, Minister Cele said that a police station alone will not resolve crime. "We can build the biggest police station, but it will be useless if it is not manned by officers who have strong ties with the residents they serve through organised community structures. It is through effective police community relations that citizens can learn about their roles in crime prevention and what to expect from the police," he said. Cele said equally, the police can, through partnerships, better understand communities they serve and put in place, suitable crime strategies to address their policing needs and crime concerns. "The Police Ministry believes that communities who are active in the fight against crime, are best positioned to demand accountability from their local police stations that fail to deliver on their policing mandates," he said. The minister told residents that all police station related complaints can be directed to the Department for Civilian Secretariat for Police Service (CSPS). "The CSPS exercises civilian oversight on the



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299⁹⁹

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119⁹⁹

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270⁰⁰

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290⁰⁰

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MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

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114⁹⁹

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274⁹⁹

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132⁹⁹

STETTON'S VODKA

174⁹⁹

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

THREE SHIPS APPLE CIDER

99⁹⁹

VICEROY HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

84⁹⁹

GLENFIDDICH 12 YEAR OLD SCOTCH WHISKY

499⁹⁹

GLENFIDDICH 12 YEAR OLD SCOTCH WHISKY

859⁹⁹

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

GRANT'S WHISKY

199⁹⁹

REMY 1010 BRANDY

279⁹⁹

BACARDI RUM

169⁹⁹

WILD AFRICA VODKA

119⁹⁹

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

STRAWBERRY LIPS HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

129⁹⁹

FIRST WATCH WHISKY

49⁹⁹

RUSSIAN BEAR VODKA

44⁹⁹

SAINTS VODKA

39⁹⁹

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

FOUR COUSINS HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

39⁹⁹

MIDNIGHT HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

89⁹⁹

EXTREME HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

69⁹⁹

SOL HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

86⁹⁹

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

HEINEKEN BEER 4 PACK

40⁰⁰

STRONGBOW NO ADDED SUGAR HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

36⁰⁰ PLUS DEPOSIT

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

HUNTER'S HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

64⁹⁹

CASTING ROCK VODKA

52⁹⁹

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

CASTLE LITE 4 PACK

49⁰⁰ PLUS DEPOSIT

STELLA ARTOIS BEER 4 PACK

54⁰⁰

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

BLACK LABEL BEER 4 PACK

200⁰⁰

CORE & FLAVOURS HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

106⁵⁰ PLUS DEPOSIT

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

BRUTAL FRUIT HARD SELTZER 4 PACK

68⁰⁰

CAPRI JUICE 1.5 LITRE

23⁹⁹

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

MAHAHA 1 LITRE COCA COLA

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LIQUORS

SAFA Sekhukhune SAB Football League commenced

The SAFA Sekhukhune SAB Football League is well underway for the 2021/2022 season.

The league started on Saturday 13 November. Eighty-four football clubs, formed by four streams from all local municipalities in Sekhukhune Region, are battling for the first prize in the league to represent Sekhukhune Region in the provincial playoffs. SAFA Sekhukhune SAB Football League Coordinator, Frank Maredi, said the league commenced well with strict Covid-19 health protocols observed in all matches. "We have officials who are tasked to ensure that teams are compliant with all Covid-19 health and safety standards including other logistics required for safety in the field of play," he said. Maredi indicated that they are happy that more teams are determined to join the league, bringing a lot of young talented players on board. "This enables us to be well represented in provincial competitions as all teams are determined to win the regional playoffs," he said. However, Maredi stated that they are disappointed that their 2020/2021 season winners, Mamatho United, was knocked-out early in the provincial playoffs, unlike other teams represented Sekhukhune previously in the provincial competition. "Our players are badly affected since the nationwide lockdown. You can't blame anyone because these are some of the devastations brought by the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

Maredi said the structure is now preparing for the Sekhukhune Regional SAB Knockout Competition that will be commencing in January 2022. "The competition will see all the 84 team taking part. R53 000, a big trophy and medals will be up for grabs for the winners. This is how we motivate our teams and technical staff members to continue taking part in football competitions in Sekhukhune Region," he said. Furthermore, Maredi said they are challenged by late affiliation of teams that also affects the starting time of the league matches. "We have been experiencing late affiliation of the teams which leads to our league starting



Monareng United FC is one of the teams with good performance in the SAFA Sekhukhune SAB Football League. The team is the reigning champions of the Sekhukhune Regional Nedbank Cup Competition.

Moleme R equips unemployed youth with vital skills

With millions of young South Africans struggling to find jobs due to lack of academic training and qualifications, a group of optimistic residents of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, came with an idea to establish Moleme R (PTY) LTD, a consulting company aiming to precisely tackle challenges of this nature.

The consulting company, which is a strategic partner of QT Training, was officially launched at Gold Rush premises in Groblersdal recently. The official launch was attended by stakeholders including; BakgagabaKopa, BakwenabaMatsepe and Matlala Tribal Authorities. Twenty students from different parts of Elias Motsoaledi Municipality, who will be forming part of Moleme R training projects through QT Training, were officially unveiled during the launch. The students are the first group to benefit from the company since it came into inception a few months ago. The students will be studying towards a National Certificate on End-User Computing NQF Level 3 Course, approved by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). Moleme R Marketing Director, Joseph Lekganyane, said the company was established to attract youth and normalize them towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution, which will equip them with vital skills for the workplace and also to be able to start their own businesses. "We have partnered with QT Training, which offers modern training that aligns with the Fourth Industrial Revolution to ensure that our students are well equipped after receiving the training," he said. According to Lekganyane, after receiving the training, the students will be contributing with laudable initiatives to develop their communities. "The graduates will be working hand in hand with the tribal authorities to uplift their communities. We want them to focus on those competencies needed to address day-to-day stumbling blocks of young people in their communities," he said. Lekganyane said their vision is to stretch their services to cover the whole Sekhukhune District and to the rest of Southern Africa in the near future. Moleme R also provide services including marketing and promotions, training projects, exhibitions, business expo, health issues, business opportunities and provide work placement to unemployed youth.

late than we expected because we have to take time finalizing registrations. This happens every year despite our messages sent to team owners and coaches in time," he said.

Maredi said other interested football teams that wish to form part of the league are welcome

to come and register in the new season. "Having as many players as possible will make our competition a better hunting ground for professional scouts to search for new talent because we play organized football and that's what they are looking for. Our main objective is to see young talented football players from Sekhukhune earn themselves lucrative contracts in PSL teams," he said.

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