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Sekhukhune Forum: Probe Illegal Mining Networks Now

SEKHUKHUNE

The Sekhukhune Residence Forum has called for an independent investigation into the illegal mining economy in Sekhukhune, warning that the crisis extends far beyond individual illegal miners.

The Forum's Chairperson, Makalakatje Phasha, said there are serious questions that can no longer be ignored regarding the relationship between established mining operations and the expanding illegal mining economy in the district.

Phasha said it is imperative that all mining companies operating in Sekhukhune, without exception, be subjected to independent scrutiny regarding their possible involvement, whether direct or indirect, in facilitating, financing, supplying or benefiting from illegal mining activities.

He said the Forum wants to establish whether some licensed mining interests are sustaining the illegal mining economy through the provision of logistics, equipment, technical expertise, access to infrastructure, mineral-processing facilities and commercial networks.

The concerns also extend to state institutions. Phasha said there are equally serious allegations and questions surrounding the possible involvement, complicity or failure to act by elements within the South African Police Service, environmental regulatory authorities and certain traditional leadership structures.

According to Phasha, a credible investigation must examine the roles of logistics and transportation companies, retired mining engineers and technical consultants, mining executives and industry intermediaries, mineral buyers, processors and commercial beneficiaries, as well as individuals who allegedly use their institutional positions or influence to circumvent mining and environmental legislation.

Phasha stressed that the issue should not be reduced to illegal miners alone. He said it is a question of the entire economic and institutional ecosystem that may enable illegal mining to survive and expand. He argued that if illegal mining is sustained by sophisticated commercial networks, technical expertise, logistical support and institutional protection, then arresting individual illegal miners will never address the root cause.

Phasha said Sekhukhune communities continue to bear the consequences of environmental destruction, abandoned mining sites, damaged infrastructure, pollution, loss of community resources and negative social impacts, while potentially powerful beneficiaries remain beyond scrutiny.

He said the natural resources of Sekhukhune must contribute to the development and prosperity of local communities, rather than enriching networks that undermine the law and compromise the future of the district.

To this end, the Sekhukhune Residence Forum is demanding an independent investigation into possible links between licensed mining operations and illegal mining activities, a financial investigation to trace the flow of money, mineral sales and the ultimate beneficiaries of illegal mining, and an investigation into alleged institutional complicity, corruption and failure of enforcement.

The Forum is further demanding an examination of the roles of logistics companies, technical consultants and mineral buyers, full disclosure of mining companies' environmental compliance and rehabilitation obligations, and accountability for every individual or institution found to have facilitated or benefited from criminal activities.

Phasha said the position of the Forum is clear. He said no mining company, government department, police officer, traditional authority, businessperson or politically connected individual should be above the law. He said Sekhukhune's mineral wealth must become a catalyst for local development, employment, environmental protection and community prosperity, and called for authorities to follow the money, identify the networks, expose the beneficiaries and restore accountability.



Sekhukhune Residence Forum has called for all mining companies operating in Sekhukhune to be subjected to independent scrutiny regarding their possible involvement in illegal mining activities.

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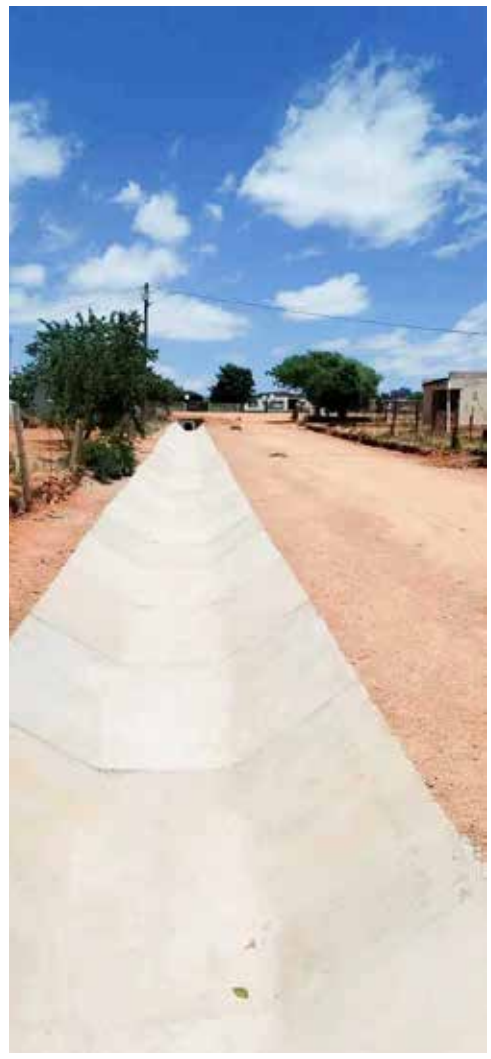
Sephaku Donga Storm-water Channel Project completed



The EMLM has completed the reconstruction of a 500-metre storm-water channel at Sephaku Donga in Ward 23.



The Sephaku Donga trench was posing danger to the public before the municipality intervention.



SEPHAKU

The Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) has announced the practical completion of the reconstruction of a 500-metre storm-water channel at Sephaku Donga in Ward 23.

The project, which was completed on 30 October 2026, is aimed at combating soil erosion and protecting road infrastructure in the area, which had been severely affected by a deep donga.

Valued at R2.85 million, the project was funded through the Municipal Disaster Recovery Grant (MDRG) and was implemented over a six-month period from May to October 2026.

According to the municipality, the project created 10 job opportunities for local community members and benefited six local Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), contributing directly to local economic development.

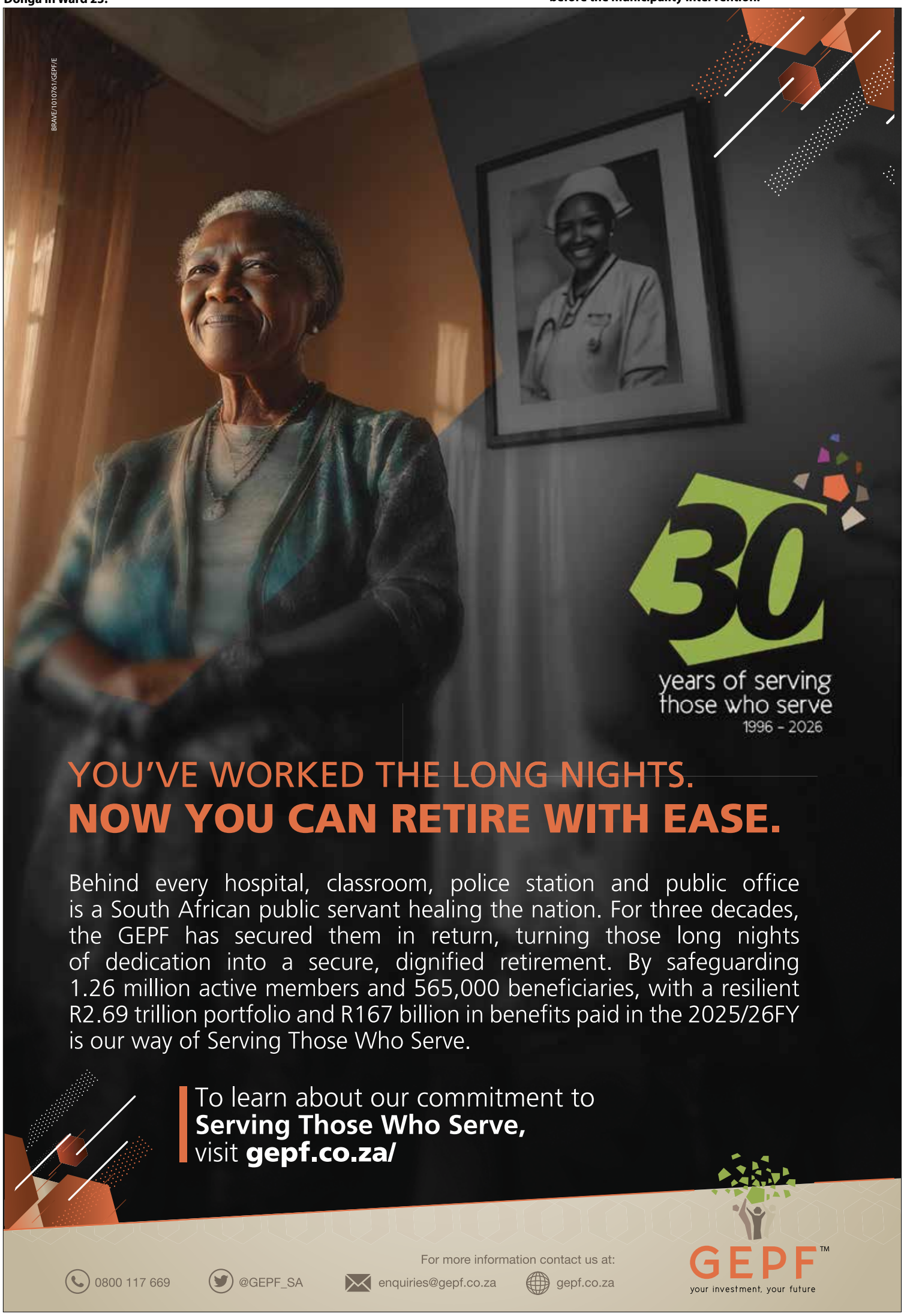
The municipality said the scope of work included clearing and grubbing, removing sand from the road, filling the eroded donga with G5 material, setting out the storm-water channel, constructing wing walls, installing culverts to facilitate crossings, and casting a concrete lining for the channel.

EMLM Mayor, Cllr David Tladi, welcomed the completion of the project, stating that it demonstrates the municipality's commitment to service delivery.

"Our commitment as the ANC-led Municipality is to deliver infrastructure that transforms lives, protects communities and restores dignity. The completion of the Sephaku Donga storm-water channel demonstrates our resolve to overcome infrastructure challenges, create jobs, empower local SMMEs and bring meaningful development to the people of Elias Motsoaledi," Tladi said.

The municipality said general cleaning and housekeeping of the site was also undertaken as part of the project close-out.

The municipality said the project forms part of the municipality's ongoing efforts to address infrastructure damage caused by natural disasters and to improve resilience in vulnerable wards.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (BASIC ASSESSMENT) PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED SHOPPING CENTER WITH A FUEL STATION, AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 3 OF THE FARM VERGELEGEN 819 KS IN JANE FURSE, WITHIN THE MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Introduction

Notice is hereby given in terms of Chapter 6 of Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) read with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) that Thamaga Properties (Pty) Ltd has lodged an application for an Environmental Authorisation with the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment, and Tourism (LEDET).

Project Description

Thamaga Properties (Pty) Ltd proposes to establish a shopping centre with an integrated fuel station in Jane Furse, Limpopo Province. The development will include retail facilities, a convenience store, access roads, parking, stormwater infrastructure and associated services. The fuel station will comprise three 45 m^3 underground storage tanks, with a total capacity of 135 m^3 for ULP 95 and Diesel 50 ppm. The dealer and product supplier will be responsible for the installation, operation and maintenance of the fuel storage and dispensing infrastructure.

Legal Requirements

The above-described project will trigger the following Listed Activities in terms of the EIA Regulations under the National Environmental Management Act:

- G.N.R 327 Listing Notice 1, Activity 14

Public Participation Process

As part of the NEMA Public Participation Process, interested or affected individuals can register as I&APs and submit comments on the Environmental Impact Assessment within 30 days of the notice publication.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT DETAILS

Matavha Environmental (Pty) Ltd
Lougardia Building, Suite 201H2, Centurion 0157 | Contact: 012 023 4121/ 072 688 7758
Att: Mr. Khathutshelo Thovhakale|Email: eiaadminstration@matavha.com

Sekhukhune man among two arrested for election-related offences in Limpopo

SCHOONOORD

A man from the Sekhukhune District is among two suspects arrested by the police in Limpopo for election-related offences, as law enforcement tightens its grip during the 2026 Local Government Elections.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the arrests were effected on Monday 2 November 2026.

In the Sekhukhune incident, a male suspect was arrested in connection with an assault and intimidation case.

"It is alleged that the complainant's political party T-shirt was forcibly removed and subsequently set alight during an incident involving members allegedly affiliated with a political party. A case was registered at Sekhukhune Police Station in Schoonoord and police investigations are continuing," Ledwaba said.

He indicated that in a separate incident in the Mankweng policing area, a male suspect was arrested for allegedly unlawfully removing election posters in an incident that was reportedly captured on video.

"A case was registered at Mankweng Police Station for contravention of Section 92 of the Electoral Act 73 of 1998. The Mankweng accused has since appeared in court and the matter was remanded to 30 November 2026," said Ledwaba.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers, said the police will not tolerate acts of intimidation, violence, or the unlawful destruction and removal of election material.

Scheepers urged political parties, their supporters and communities to respect the law, exercise political tolerance and resolve differences peacefully.

He said police will continue to monitor election-related incidents and act decisively against anyone found to be violating the law.



The police in Schoonoord outside Jane Furse have arrested a male suspect in connection with assault and intimidation after he allegedly forcibly removed a political party T-shirt from a victim which he subsequently set alight.

Blaze contained after outbreak in Groblersdal CBD



Russells Furniture Store in Groblersdal Mark Street being gutted by a mysterious fire.

GROBLERSDAL

Traffic and business operations were disrupted in Groblersdal recently, after a fire broke out in the town's central business district. The incident occurred at Russells Furniture Store in Mark Street, one of the busiest streets in Groblersdal.

During the incident, Emergency crews from the Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) were immediately dispatched to the scene to contain the blaze.

In a statement, SDM Executive Mayor, Cllr Minah Bahula, appealed for public cooperation while emergency operations are underway.Authorities have not yet confirmed what caused the fire or how much damage has been caused.

The municipality has assured residents that further updates will be communicated as more information becomes available.

The Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM), Cllr David Tladi, praised fire fighters, private security and all stakeholders following fire at in Groblersdal

The Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, Cllr David Tladi, has praised the Sekhukhune District firefighters, private security personnel, and all other stakeholders for their decisive response to the fire. He recognised their dedication, cooperation, and commitment to emergency response and the protection of human life.

The Mayor welcomed the outcome of the incident, in which no injuries or fatalities were reported, and expresses his sincere appreciation to all emergency responders, security personnel, and stakeholders whose efforts contributed to protecting lives and managing the situation.

Tladi commended everyone who played a role in responding to the incident, highlighting the importance of collaboration and coordinated efforts in safeguarding lives and property during emergencies.

Furthermore, the Mayor urged all business owners and operators in Groblersdal to strictly adhere to building regulations, fire safety standards, and all relevant municipal requirements to help prevent similar incidents and ensure the safety of employees, customers, and the broader community.

"The protection of human life must always remain our top priority. We urge all business owners to comply with building regulations and fire safety requirements to safeguard lives and property. We also acknowledge and appreciate the role played by all stakeholders in responding to this incident," he said.



Fire fighters from Sekhukhune District Municipality containing the blaze at Russells Furniture Store in Groblersdal.

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DoH hands over 147 mobile clinics



The 147 modern mobile clinics handed to the department

POLOKWANE

MEC for Health in Limpopo Eddie Maila, together with the Premier of Limpopo, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, officially handed over 147 mobile clinics at the Old Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane. The mobile clinics were handed on October 30 and will be divided amongst the hospitals in the five districts of Limpopo. The handover marks a significant milestone in strengthening Primary Health Care services and improving access to healthcare, particularly for communities in remote and underserved areas across the province.

The Limpopo health department said the new fleet represents a major improvement from the old mobile clinics, offering larger and more functional spaces designed to enhance service delivery.

Each mobile clinic is equipped with a refrigerator for medicine storage, a backup generator to ensure uninterrupted services, oxygen supply, a fully fitted consulting room with a patient bed, built-in cabinets, hand-wash basin, screening tables and chairs, creating a conducive environment for quality healthcare services.

"We are happy to hand over these 147 modern mobile clinics to ensure that our communities can access healthcare services at their doorstep. We also engage our staff as well as the drivers to take good care of this newly acquired clinics. " said Maila

Tubatse Police seek Tebatso Phetla to assist in murder investigation of female teacher

MASHAMOTHANE

The police in Tubatse have launched a massive manhunt following the discovery of the body of a 33-year-old female teacher at her residence in Mashamothane 2, Mmamatipa outside Burgersfort.

According to the police, the body was found on Monday 26 October 2026, after colleagues from Batau High School became concerned when the teacher failed to report for duty and could not be reached on her cellphone.

Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, said the victim's colleagues went to check on her at about 11:00 and discovered her body at her residence.

"The deceased was found with her hands tied behind her back with cable ties, and her body was in an advanced state of decomposition. A murder case has been opened and the motive for the killing remains unknown," said Ledwaba.

He said the police are now appealing to a 22-year-old man to come forward to assist with the investigation.

"Police are appealing to Tebatso Thabo Phetla, 22, whose photo appears alongside this statement, to urgently report to his nearest police station, as it is believed that he may be able to assist police with information that could assist in resolving this murder case," Ledwaba said.

He said the police urge anyone with information that could assist the investigation to contact the investigating officer, Sergeant Mpho Mogale, on 076 814 6522, visit the nearest police station, call the Crime Stop number on 08600 10111 or use the MySAPS App.

"Police investigations are continuing," concluded Ledwaba.



The police in Tubatse appeal to Tebatso Thabo Phetla to urgently report to his nearest police station to assist police with information that could assist in resolving the murder of a 33-year-old female teacher.

Dennilton man sentenced to 10 years for raping 4-year-old girl

DENNILTON

A 30-year-old man has been sentenced to 10 years direct imprisonment for raping a four-year-old girl in Dennilton. The accused cannot be named to protect the identity of the minor victim.The sentence was handed down by the Groblersdal Regional Court on Thursday 29 October 2026, following his conviction for contravening Section 3 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 32 of 2007.Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, said the incident occurred in August 2025.

"The victim, who was four years old at the time, was playing with other children when the accused, whom she knew, called her to where he was seated behind a house. The accused picked her up and placed her on his lap before sexually assaulting her. After the incident, the child experienced pain and began crying. She subsequently disclosed what had happened to her sister, who informed their aunt, leading to the matter being reported to the police," said Ledwaba.He said the case was assigned to Captain Lekgala Phala of the Groblersdal Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Unit.

Colonel Ledwaba said through dedicated investigative work, the accused was successfully brought before the court and convicted. The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Scheepers, commends the investigating officer for the commitment and diligence demonstrated in ensuring that justice is served for the victim and her family.



Captain Lekgala Phala of the Groblersdal FCS conducted a thorough investigation that led to the successful conviction and sentencing of the suspect

Millicent Mafolo vies for Miss Sekhukhune District 2027 crown



Millicent Mafolo from Motlolo Village has secured a spot as a one of finalists in the Miss Sekhukhune District 2027 Pageant.

MOTLOLO

Aspiring beauty model, Millicent Mafolo from Motlolo Village outside Burgersfort, has secured a spot as a finalist in the Miss Sekhukhune District 2027 Pageant.The 24-year-old, who holds a qualification in Financial Management and is currently working as a Finance Intern, describes herself as confident, resilient and compassionate. She says she is passionate about youth empowerment, mental health awareness and environmental sustainability.Millicent is also the founder of the Bophelo Youth and Environmental Foundation, an organisation focused on empowering young people, raising environmental awareness and encouraging communities to take care of their environment. Through the foundation, she has been involved in initiatives including tree planting and youth motivation campaigns.

"My mission is to empower young people, promote mental wellbeing and create more awareness about environmental sustainability. I believe that while we are empowering the younger generation and taking care of our mental health, we should also remember the importance of protecting our environment," she said.She said she entered Miss Sekhukhune District 2027 to represent her community and use her voice for a meaningful purpose.

"I joined Miss Sekhukhune District 2027 because I see it as an opportunity to represent my community, grow as a young woman, meet new people and use my voice for a meaningful purpose. For me, it is not only about winning a crown but also about having a purpose, giving back and making a positive impact," said Millicent.

The pageant will hold its grand finale on 19 December this year at the Moses Mabotha Hall in Ga-Nkoana, Apel.

Millicent said she hopes her journey inspires other young people from rural areas."I want my journey to remind young people that where you come from should never stop you from believing in where you can go," she said.

Millicent has appealed to the public for support ahead of the finale. Voting is done via banking with voting reference MSKD19, through Capitec Acc Number 2156483058 with TG Pilusa as account holder.

Members of the public are encouraged to follow the official Miss Sekhukhune District social media pages for verified voting details and updates.

The Miss Sekhukhune District pageant aims to celebrate beauty with purpose while empowering young women to become ambassadors of change in their communities.

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New Mampana Library officially opens its doors



MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture in Limpopo, Bella Kupa-Mabuza, officially opened the Mampana Library.

MAMPANA

Access to information and learning has received a major boost in rural Sekhukhune, with the official opening of the Mampana Library outside Jane Furse on Friday 30 October 2026.

The official opening marked another milestone in the Limpopo Department of Sport, Arts and Culture's drive to expand library infrastructure to underserved communities in the province.

Delivering her keynote address, MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture in Limpopo, Bella Kupa-Mabuza, said the facility is more than just a building.

"Today is more than the opening of a building. It is about opening doors to knowledge, creating opportunities for our children, empowering our young people and strengthening the foundation upon which we can build a knowledgeable, informed and confident society," said Kupa-Mabuza.

The MEC said the department recognizes access to information as a basic requirement for building an inclusive society.

"As the Limpopo Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, we recognize that access to information is essential to building an inclusive society in which every person, regardless of their background or economic circumstances, has an opportunity to learn, grow and participate meaningfully in society," she said.

Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, with its seat in Jane Furse and a population of over 340,000 residents, spread across more than 70 villages, and is one of the most rural municipalities in Sekhukhune District.

The area relies heavily on Jane Furse for government services, with limited formal industry and high dependence on traditional leadership structures.

The opening of Mampana Library forms part of the department's provincial strategy to promote a reading culture, preserve heritage and provide inclusive access to information services, particularly in rural areas.

The department informed that it is currently oversees close to 100 libraries across Limpopo, with Sekhukhune District accounting for a small share compared to urban centres.

MEC Mabuza described the new library as a direct investment in the community's future.

"The opening of Mampana Library represents an investment in the people of this community, particularly our children and young people. We live in a world where knowledge is one of the most important resources for social and economic development," she said.

"A child who learns to read gains access to a world of possibilities. A young person who can access reliable information is better equipped to make informed decisions about education, employment and their future," she emphasized.

She furthered made a clarion call for learners to make full use of the facility.

"This library must become a place where learners can conduct research, complete school assignments, prepare for examinations and develop a lifelong love for reading," she said.

For students and job seekers, the MEC said the library must serve as a gateway to opportunity.

"It must offer opportunities to access information about further education, bursaries, career choices and employment opportunities."

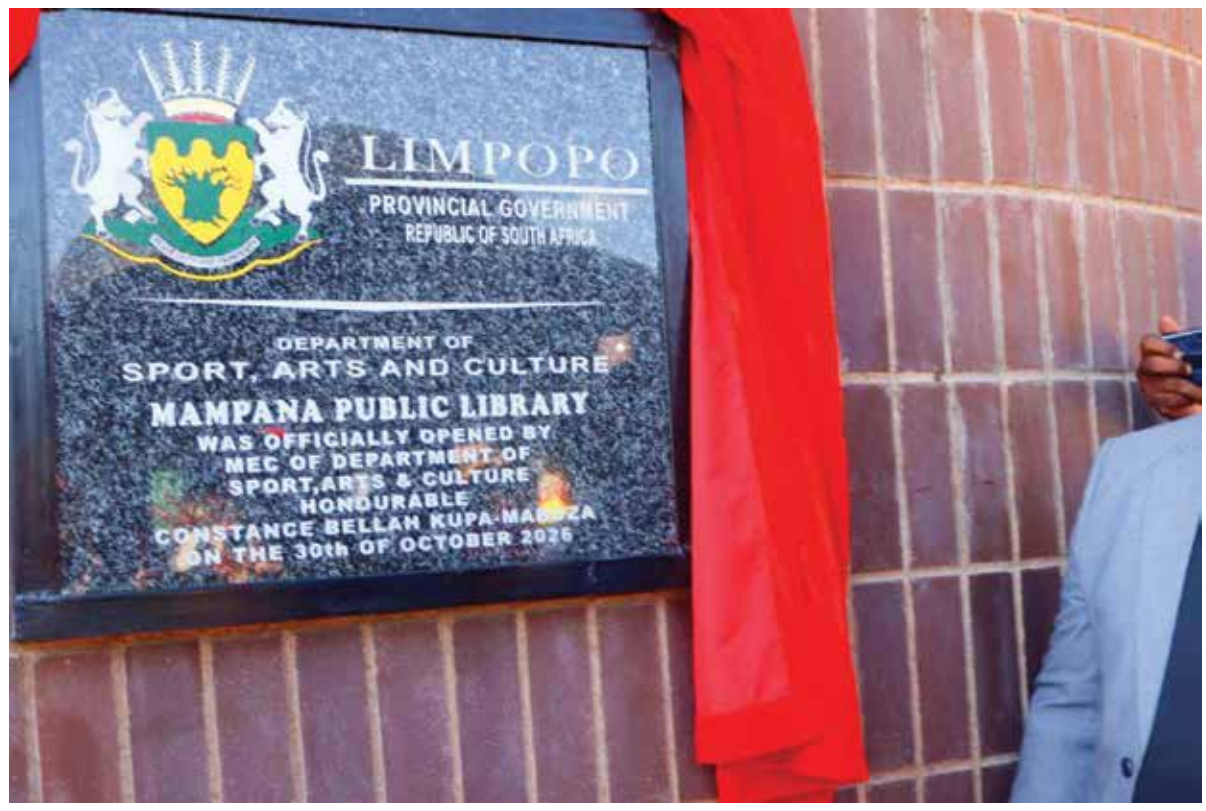
Like other new libraries recently opened by the department in Limpopo, the Mampana facility is expected to offer free internet, Wi-Fi, study space and access to both physical and electronic books, in line with the province's 7th Administration's commitment to "Leave No One Behind and build a Limpopo That Works For All".

The Mphanama Library official handover was attended by community members, traditional leaders, learners and officials from both the district and local municipality.



The Mampana Library is expected to offer free internet, Wi-Fi, study space and access to both physical and electronic books.





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Seven malaria cases confirmed in Marble Hall and Moganyaka



Seven people were confirmed to have contracted malaria in the Marble Hall and Moganyaka areas.



A multidisciplinary scientific task team which has been deployed to conduct detailed environmental assessments, mosquito sampling and expanded targeted indoor residual spraying in identified high-risk areas.

MARBLE HALL/MOGANYAKA

The Limpopo Department of Health has intensified malaria surveillance and control measures in Sekhukhune District, following an unusual cluster of seven confirmed cases in the Marble Hall and Moganyaka areas during October 2026.

While Limpopo is one of three malaria-endemic provinces in South Africa, along with Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal, Sekhukhune District is historically outside the areas traditionally associated with high malaria transmission, which are concentrated in Vhembe and Mopani districts.Department Spokesperson, Neil Shikwambana, said the detection of cases in areas not normally associated with transmission has raised concern.

"Initial investigations established that none of the seven patients had travelled outside Limpopo, raising concern about possible local transmission," said Shikwambana.

He confirmed that all seven patients have received antimalarial treatment and are recovering.

"The Department is investigating the cases and implementing targeted interventions to assess and contain the potential risk of further transmission," Shikwambana said.

According to Shikwambana, health teams have screened contacts and high-risk construction workers for malaria, all of whom tested negative. He said indoor residual spraying was also conducted at 16 residential structures in the immediate area of concern.Shikwambana said initial assessments of nearby water bodies did not detect mosquito larvae or adult mosquitoes, but stressed that these preliminary findings do not conclude the investigation.

He said a multidisciplinary scientific task team has been deployed to conduct detailed environmental assessments, mosquito sampling and expanded targeted indoor residual spraying in identified high-risk areas, including mining compounds, farmworker accommodation and surrounding settlements.

"Further vector-control measures will be guided by the team's findings. The department is maintaining heightened diagnostic vigilance at Matlala Hospital, Philadelphia Hospital, Marulaneng Clinic and nearby primary healthcare facilities," Shikwambana said.

Residents of Marble Hall and Moganyaka have raised concerns over the increase, calling for intensified awareness campaigns. The matter was briefly discussed during Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality council meeting at Manapjane Community Hall, where residents were advised to monitor symptoms.

In response, the department's Malaria Control Programme launched a two-day Epidemiological Blitz in Moganyaka Village, Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality.

On day one, 39 people were tested for malaria and all tested negative, while over 70 people were reached through health education at Marulaneng Clinic. The blitz continued with community education and screening at Rahlagane Tribal Authority Offices in Moganyaka.

The activities include reactive indoor residual spraying, community health education and screening, entomological surveys to assess mosquito populations and identify breeding sites, and larviciding to prevent larvae from developing.

Shikwambana urged communities to remain calm but vigilant, warning that malaria is preventable and treatable but delayed diagnosis can lead to severe illness and death.He advised residents to use mosquito repellent especially in the evening and at night, wear long-sleeved clothing and long trousers when outdoors after dark, reduce exposure during nighttime activities including fishing and outdoor work, and seek medical attention promptly if they develop fever, chills, headache or body aches, and to inform healthcare workers that they live or work in an affected area.Shikwambana said further updates will be provided as the investigation continues.

Environmental Authorisation Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT (NEMA), 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AS AMENDED, AND THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REGULATIONS, 2014 FOR MINING PERMIT (BORROW-PIT) FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE OF THE ROAD D2920 ON PORTION 247 OF THE FARM(s) WITFONTEIN 001 JS AT MAMANENG VILLAGE(s) WITHIN EPHRAIM MOGALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, GREATER SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

REF: LP30/5/1/3/3/2/1 (**00749**) EM

With reference to the abovementioned application, please be advised that the Department has decided to Grant environmental authorisation for in terms of National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1988).

The notice serves to notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties that the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) has issued an Environmental Authorization (EA) for the project as indicated above. Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must submit the appeal to the Minister of forestry, fisheries and Environment and a copy of such appeal to the Department of Mineral Resources (Limpopo Regional Office), within 20 days from the date of notification, and such appeal must be lodged as prescribed in by Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations of 2025.

Appeal to the Department of Environmental Affairs Attention:

Directorate Appeals and Legal Review
Email: appeals@dffe.gov.za
By post: Private Bag X 447, Pretoria, 0001
By hand: Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, 00083

Copy of the Lodged appeal to the Department of Mineral Resources Attention:

Regional Manager: Limpopo Region
By facsimile: (015) 297 7230
Email: Thivhulawi.kolani@dmpr.gov.za
By post: Private Bag X 9467, Polokwane, 0700
By hand: DMR Building, 101 Dorp Street, Polokwane, 0699

Copies of the EA are available from The Consultant:

Khera Environmental Specialists (Pty) Ltd,
55 Jorissen Street, Bendor, Polokwane
Contact person: Muravha Makhera
Tel: 015 065 0731
Email: info@khera.co.za

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REF: LP30/5/1/3/3/2/1 (**00751**) EM

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Sports



Sekhukhune Dispatch
YOUR NEWS YOUR COMMUNITY

INSIDE

Sephaku Donga Storm-water Channel Project completed

Limpopo Golden Girls stun KZN in penalty drama at National Golden Games





Limpopo female football team members celebrating after sealing a dramatic 5-3 victory on penalties during the 2026 National Golden Games.



Limpopo female football team triumphed over Kwa-Zulu Natal in the 2026 National Golden Games.



LIMPOPO

Limpopo female football team delivered one of the notable highlights at the 2026 National Golden Games, after beating KwaZulu-Natal in a nerve-wracking penalty shootout at the Dr Petrus Rantlai Molemela Stadium in Mangaung, in Free State.

The Limpopo side, known as the Golden Girls, held KZN to a 1-all draw in regulation time before sealing a dramatic 5-3 victory on penalties to send their supporters into celebration.

The match was part of Day One of the National Active Ageing Programme, which was led by Social Development Minister, Dina Pule, in Bloemfontein from Friday 30 to Saturday 31 October 2026, under the theme: "Golden Years: See Our Value; Golden Opportunities: Promote Our Rights."

The Golden Games, which form the centerpiece of the programme, brought together older persons aged 60 and above from all nine provinces to compete in soccer, athletics, choral music and various indigenous games.

The programme is guided by the Older Persons Act 13 of 2006, the National Development Plan, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing.During the sporting events, Team Limpopo recorded several other firsts on the day. According to the provincial team, Limpopo secured victories in the 800m male and female events for ages 60 to 70, the 100m male 70 and above, the 200m female 70 and above, and the 4x100m relay 70 and above.

The Limpopo Older Persons Provincial Team participated in the games through a collaboration between the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and the Department of Social Development Limpopo.

Officials said their participation is a reminder that active ageing is crucial for physical well-being, social connection and improved quality of life. Through sport and recreation, older persons continued to demonstrate that age is no barrier to staying active, engaged and involved in communities.The games have attracted large delegations from across the country. The Eastern Cape sent 130 seniors, Gauteng about 200, and the Western Cape was represented by senior clubs from Khayelitsha, Gugulethu, Langa and other communities.While Limpopo shone on the football field on Friday, KwaZulu-Natal was ultimately crowned overall national champions of the 2026 edition, finishing top of the standings with 588 points, ahead of Gauteng with 498 points and Limpopo in third place with 435 points.

Minister Pule, addressing the opening at Dr Molemela Stadium, challenged stereotypes about ageing, stating that older persons remain valuable contributors to society through their talents, wisdom and continued participation.The National Active Ageing Programme concluded on 31 October, at the Clive Solomon Stadium in Heidedal, Bloemfontein.

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