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Ramathuba leads high-level visit to Tafelkop farmers



Premier Ramathuba leading a government delegation at a local farm in Tafelkop to observe activities.

TAFELKOP- Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba, joined by MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development in Limpopo, Nakedi Kekana, led a high level delegation to Hereford Community Farm in Tafelkop, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM), as part of a focused intervention to support the Tafelkop Farmers Association (TFA) and assess food production milestones in the region.

The visit, conducted on Wednesday 15 April 2026, forms part of the Limpopo Provincial Government's commitment to food security and land reform, with the delegation touring various farms in the area and engaging directly with local producers.

Premier Ramathuba and MEC Kekana were formally welcomed by a delegation of local leaders, including Executive Mayor of the Sekhukhune District Municipality

(SDM) Cllr Mina Bahula and Mayor of EMLM, Cllr David Tladi.

The Tafelkop Farmers Association has farmed a 189-hectare property for over 25 years.

The association, comprising 30 farmers, recently reached a major milestone when it was awarded official title deeds by President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Officials described the transfer of ownership as a turning point for the farmers, providing long-term tenure security and enabling greater investment in infrastructure, irrigation, livestock and crop production.

The association also comprises 32 subsistence farmers. According to the Department of Agriculture and Land Reform, 19 of the 32 have so far benefited from provincial government support. The intervention included the contribution of 19 protective nets to shield seedlings from animals such as birds, rabbits and antelopes.

Farmers in the association currently produce spinach, cabbage, tomatoes, sweet potatoes and lucerne for small livestock farmers.

Their fresh produce is supplied to supermarkets including Spar and Boxer, as well as to hawkers in and around Sekhukhune and neighbouring areas.

Many of the farmers have stated their

aspiration to transition from subsistence farming to commercial farming.

During the visit, Premier Ramathuba engaged directly with farmers and stressed the importance of collaboration.

"When farmers work together, they become stronger, more resilient, and better positioned to grow their businesses and uplift their communities," she said.

Ramathuba stated that agriculture remains one of the key economic backbones of Limpopo, and they are committed to supporting farmers to ensure sustainable growth and food security.

The programme concluded with a site visit to one of the local farms, where the delegation observed farming activities and discussed



Limpopo Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, had committed to supporting farmers to ensure sustainable growth and food security.



Minister of DHET, Buti Manamela, addressing the meeting at Bapedi Kingdom's Tšate III Great Palace in Mhlaletse Village.



Minister of DHET, Buti Manamela, with Kgoshigadi Manyaku Thulare, and other dignitaries during the engagement.

Bapedi Kingdom and DHET discuss Sekhukhune University plans

MOHLALETSE - The Bapedi Kingdom and Minister of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), Buti Manamela, held a significant meeting at Tšate III Great Palace in Mhlaletse Village on Friday 10 April 2026.

The engagement focused on advancing the proposed establishment of Sekhukhune University, a project closely tied to the developmental aspirations of Sekhukhuneland, envisioned by the late King Thulare Victor Thulare III.

Minister Manamela, accompanied by the MEC for Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), Tshitereke Matibe, DHET officials, and the Services SETA representatives, met with Kgoshigadi Manyaku Thulare, leader of the Bapedi Kingdom.

The meeting aimed to discuss the government's commitment to expanding the Post-School Education and Training (PSET) sector in the Sekhukhune District, including building new campuses, enhancing digital learning, and fostering industry partnerships to address skills shortages.

The proposed Sekhukhune University is a collaborative effort between Tshwane University of

Technology (TUT) and the Bapedi Kingdom, intended to bring education in mining and agriculture to the mineral-rich region.

However, progress has stalled, leading to frustration among the Kingdom's leaders and local communities.

Minister Manamela's intervention reflects the government's commitment to expanding access to post-school education, particularly in underserved regions. He emphasized ensuring academic readiness, strengthening technical and vocational pathways, and delivering safe, quality student accommodation.

The meeting resulted in a clear directive to officials from the Office of the Minister of Higher Education and Training to consolidate relevant background information, including the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in April 2021 between TUT and the Bapedi Kingdom, and the feasibility study conducted.

The engagement signals renewed momentum towards realizing the vision of a Sekhukhune University, an enduring legacy aligned with the aspirations of the Bapedi Kingdom and the broader Sekhukhune community.

EMLM convenes IDP Representative Forum



EMLM MMC for Budget and Treasury, Ndimiso Ndlovu, presenting the draft budget and IDP review process during the IDP Representative Forum meeting.

GROBLERSDAL – On Friday 10 April 2026, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) convened its Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Representative Forum, bringing together stakeholders and community representatives to discuss key development priorities and the draft 2026/2027 budget. The engagement was convened at Elias Motsoaledi Municipal Chamber in Groblersdal.

The forum was convened in line with the legislative requirements of the Municipal Systems Act, which mandates municipalities to engage communities and stakeholders in the planning and implementation of council programmes, ensuring participatory and

inclusive governance.

The forum aimed to review the municipality's IDP and budget, ensuring community needs are central to planning and service delivery.

Acting EMLM Mayor, Cllr Ndimiso Ndlovu, who is MMC for Budget and Treasury, presented the draft budget and IDP review process, highlighting the municipality's commitment to transparent and inclusive governance.

Stakeholders provided inputs and recommendations to strengthen alignment between municipal plans and community priorities.

Acting Mayor Ndlovu further emphasized the importance of inclusive planning. "We remain committed to ensuring our planning processes are driven by community needs," he said. Ndlovu indicated that the IDP Representative Forum is a vital platform where we collectively shape the development trajectory of our municipality.

"We value the inputs received from all stakeholders and will ensure they are carefully considered in finalising our IDP and budget with the Municipal Systems Act and the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA)," he said. Ndlovu said the local municipality remains committed to improving service delivery and advancing sustainable development through continuous community engagement and participatory planning processes.

The municipality also expressed appreciation to all stakeholders for their active participation and constructive contributions.



Stakeholders from different structures attended during the IDP Representative Forum meeting held at EMLM Municipal Chamber in Groblersdal.



Bongani Thabethe interacting with Mme Pebetse Matlala, during his visit at Mabelebabutšwe Cultural Centre.

Phuza Weekend Operation nets 33 drunk drivers in Limpopo

LIMPOPO – In what it calls “concerning results”, the Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety has apprehended 33 motorists in the province from its latest Phuza Weekend Operation, after they were found driving under the influence between Tuesday 6 and Sunday 12 April 2026.

According to the department, the week-long provincial crackdown targeted drinking and driving, with traffic police conducting roadblocks and patrols across Limpopo.

During the operation, traffic officers recorded one breath alcohol reading of 0.97mg per 1000ml, the figure is more than four times the legal limit of 0.24mg per 1000ml.

Departmental Spokesperson, Mashudu Mabata, said the results show a persistent danger on provincial roads.

“This level of intoxication represents an extreme risk not only to the driver, but to every passenger, pedestrian, and road user sharing the road,” Mabata said.

The Department commended traffic police for what it described as an “unwavering commitment and zero tolerance approach” during the operation.

According to Mabata, officers worked around the clock to remove intoxicated drivers from the roads.

“Their visibility and decisive action during the Phuza Weekend Operation are saving lives and sending a clear message that lawlessness will not be tolerated in Limpopo,” Mabata said.

She indicated that the department stressed the consequences of impaired driving, noting that alcohol slows reaction time, impairs judgment, and effectively turns vehicles into deadly weapons, reiterating that “one drunk driver is one too many.”

“Motorists are urged to plan ahead when consuming alcohol. If you plan to drink, do not drive. Let us all play our part in ensuring we arrive alive,” she said.



The Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety announced that 33 drunk drivers were arrested in the province during Phuza Weekend Operation.

Local hero inspires Mohlalaotwane youth with Science

MOHLALAO TWANE – In a heartwarming return to his roots, Bongani Thabethe, fondly known as “BONGS,” is making strides in his community through his outreach initiative, “Botšiša Bongs” (Ask Bongs).

The event, held on Monday 6 April 2026, marked the latest in a series of science education and skills training programmes he has spearheaded across Sekhukhune District.

Born and nurtured in Mohlalaotwane Village, he credits his foundation in Maths and Science to Matšedi Primary School, Rakgoadi Primary, and Mokone a Mabula Secondary School.

He went on to study Applied Mathematics and Physics, earning his Master’s in Material Science from the University of Western Cape, and is now pursuing a PhD in Physics and Material Science.

As a researcher at CSIR, Thabethe specializes in prototypes for solar panels and gas sensors at an international scale, and has launched several science and technology initiatives in partnership with the Sekhukhune Development Agency (SDA), following a memorandum of understanding signed on 29 October 2025.

This included the PV Solar Training programme, sponsored by Standard Bank and hosted at Sekhukhune TVET College’s skills centre in Groblersdal, with oversight from the Sekhukhune District Municipality and SDA.

His latest project, “Botšiša Bongs,” aims to inspire local youth to explore science and innovation.

During his visit at Mohlalaotwane Village, Thabethe toured the Mabelebabutšwe Cultural Centre, founded by Mme Pebetse Matlala, which preserves the heritage of the Bakone ba Matlala.

Addressing the community at the Mohlalaotwane Tribal Office, he emphasized the importance of hands-on scientific exposure for the youth, encouraging science educators to organize educational tours to institutions like Mintek and CSIR.

He encouraged science educators in Sekhukhune to organize educational tours to institutions like Mintek and CSIR, emphasizing the transformative potential of hands-on scientific exposure for the youth.

Through “Botšiša Bongs,” Thabethe continues to demonstrate that science, innovation, and community upliftment can begin at home.



Bongani Thabethe interacting with Mme Pebetse Matlala, during his visit at Mabelebabutšwe Cultural Centre.

Over 400 suspects nabbed in week-long Limpopo Operation Shanela



The police in Limpopo have arrested multiple suspects during a province-wide Operation Shanela.



Illicit cigarettes and drugs were recovered during Limpopo Police Operation Shanela conducted recently across the province.

LIMPOPO - In a significant blow to crime in Limpopo, the police in the province have arrested 477 suspects for various offenses during a week-long operation. The operation, dubbed "Operation Shanela", was conducted across Limpopo Province jointly with external law enforcement agencies from Monday 5 to Sunday 12 April 2026.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the operation was a resounding success, with significant arrests made across the province.

"The operations were conducted through stop and search, tracing of wanted suspects, high visibility patrols, roadblocks and vehicle check points, and compliance inspections," Ledwaba said.

He said the arrests included 39 illegal immigrants, 1 suspect for residential robbery, 17 suspects for possession of dangerous weapons, 33 suspects for possession of drugs, 9 murder suspects, 7 attempted murder suspects, 19 rape suspects, and 3 attempted rape suspects. Additionally, 115 suspects were arrested for assault with grievous bodily harm (GBH), 70 for assault common, 5 for illegal possession of firearms, and 24 for dealing in drugs.

Ledwaba added that the operation also targeted other crimes, including robbery with aggravating circumstances, burglary, malicious damage to property, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, illicit mining, and illegal dealing in liquor.

Furthermore, Ledwaba

indicated that the operation also resulted in the recovery of significant items, including 247,583 liters of alcoholic beverages, 7 ammunition, R189 in cash, 7 cellphones, 27 dangerous weapons, 0.589 grams of dagga, 0.11 grams of Crystal Meth drugs, and 0.005 grams of nyaope. Additionally, 5 firearms, 3 jewelry items, 1020 packets of tobacco products, and 1 motor vehicle.

"Some of the arrested suspects have already started to appear before their local magistrate courts," he said.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, said he is pleased about the arrests that were effected across Limpopo province and strongly assured that the criminal activities would not be tolerated and justice will always prevail.

Police hunt suspects over stolen sheep in Sterkfontein



The police in Motetema have launched a manhunt after 14 sheep were stolen at Sterkfontein Village.

STERKFRONTEIN - The police in Motetema outside Groblersdal are urging anyone with information to come forward after 14 sheep were stolen from Sterkfontein Village earlier this month.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the stock theft incident occurred on Wednesday 1 April 2026, when a 55-year-old man left his sheep in a kraal.

"The complainant returned from the grazing fields with his fourteen sheep and secured them inside a kraal, ensuring that the gate was properly closed. However, the following morning, the kraal gate was found forced open and the sheep were gone. Despite searching, the owner

was unable to locate the missing animals and reported the theft to the police," explained Ledwaba.

He added that the estimated value of the stolen sheep is R21 000 and the case is being investigated by the Stock Theft and Endangered Species Unit, with the suspect(s) still at large.

"Anyone with information is urged to contact the Stock Theft Unit on 079 875 8048, Crime Stop on 08600 10111, or their nearest police station. Information can also be provided via the MySAPSApp," Ledwaba said.

Ledwaba stated that the police are appealing to anyone with information that may assist in the investigation or lead to the arrest of the suspect(s) to come forward.



Eric Tinkler parted-ways with Sekhukhune United on mutual agreement.

Sekhukhune United part-ways with Tinkler

SEKHUKHUNE - Sekhukhune United FC have parted-ways with Head Coach, Eric Tinkler, on mutual agreement, with Paulus Masehe expected to take charge for the remainder of the 2025/2026 season.

This decision comes after Tinkler's appointment in March 2025, following the departure of Lehlohonolo Seema.

Tinkler, a former Bafana Bafana defender, had a UEFA A License and was tasked with guiding Sekhukhune United to a top-three finish in the Betway Premiership.

During his tenure, Tinkler

brought in Marc Van Heerden as his assistant, and Masehe remained part of the technical team. Sekhukhune United currently sit fourth in the league standings. The club's chairman, Simon Malatji, had praised Tinkler's appointment, citing his experience and qualifications.

Masehe, who has been with Sekhukhune United's youth structures and senior team, is set to lead the team alongside the existing technical team. The club will be looking to secure a strong finish to the season under Masehe's guidance.

24-Hour Kwarilaagte Clinic accused of abandoning elderly patients at locked gates



Locals accuse staff members at Kwarilaagte Clinic in Ntwane Village, Dennilton, of negligence.

NTWANE - The sign outside still reads “24-Hour Service,” but for the elderly residents from Ntwane Village in Dennilton, who arrive before sunrise seeking medical care, the gates of Kwarilaagte Clinic tell a different story, locked, guarded, inaccessible.

Community outrage erupted recently after reports emerged that vulnerable patients, many well into their 70s and 80s, are being forced to queue outside the 24-hour operational public health facility in the pre-dawn chill while staff remain inside.

Despite its official status as a 24-hour operational clinic, locals say access is routinely denied in the early morning hours, with security personnel instructing sick and elderly residents to wait outside until an unspecified opening time.

The core of the community’s anger is the contradiction between the clinic’s mandate and its morning reality. Public health facilities designated as 24-hour centers are meant to provide continuous access for emergencies, chronic medication collection, and early arrivals seeking to avoid long daytime queues. In Ntwane, residents say that promise is being broken daily.

Multiple community members who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of victimization described a routine.

Patients traveling from surrounding villages arrive as early as 4:30 a.m., hoping to be first in line when services begin. Instead of being triaged or allowed into a waiting area, they are met by security personnel who instruct them to queue outside the perimeter fence.

The allegations were formalized in a scathing press statement issued by Seun Mogotji, General Secretary of the Bolsheviks Party of South Africa (BPSA), describing the practice as “inhumane and degrading treatment.”

Mogotji details a disturbing scene, with

grandparents and pensioners wrapped in blankets, seated on the ground outside locked gates, while nurses and clinic staff are reportedly inside the building.

“We have witnessed, with anger and disbelief, elderly members of our community being forced to sit outside in the cold during early morning hours, denied entry by security personnel. While our parents and grandparents are left shivering outside, nurses and staff are seated comfortably inside, keeping warm and drinking coffee. This reflects a disturbing lack of urgency, compassion, and respect for human dignity,” Mogotji said.

Mogotji described the situation as not just “negligence” but “cruelty practices” by the clinic staff members.

“We express our outrage and deep shock at the inhumane and degrading treatment of elderly patients. It is completely unacceptable that a facility designated to operate 24 hours a day is effectively shutting its doors on the very people it is meant to serve,” he said.

Mogotji, stated that they will demand immediate answers from clinic management, including an explanation for the facility’s failure to provide 24-hour access, and disciplinary action against those responsible for the mistreatment accompanied by a public apology to affected patients and their families.

“Healthcare is not a privilege; it is a right. We will not remain silent while our elders are treated with such disregard. This situation must be corrected immediately before it leads to serious harm or loss of life. The dignity of our people must be defended at all times,” said Mogotji.

At the time of going to press, Neil Shikwambana, Limpopo Department of Health Spokesperson, Could not respond to the publication’s enquiries.



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Pioneer Drill and Blast (Pty) Ltd.
is inviting suitably qualified candidates to apply for the following vacancy:

MECHANICAL ENGINEER (MINING EQUIPMENT DESIGN & IMPROVEMENT)

Pioneer Drill & Blast (Pty) Ltd has a vacancy for a **Mechanical Engineer**. The successful candidate will be responsible for leading the following key focus areas:

- **Oversight of Buying, Procurement and Stores:** Providing technical leadership to the buying, procurement, and stores functions to ensure correct material selection, quality, availability, standardisation, and cost-effective procurement of components, spares, and materials.
- **Sustainable Drilling-Fleet Management:** Leading the design, improvement, and optimisation of a sustainable, high-quality, and efficient drilling fleet, ensuring performance, reliability, safety, and cost-effectiveness in a demanding operational environment.

EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS

- Education:** • BEng/BSc in Mechanical Engineering (or equivalent).
- Computer Skills:** • Microsoft Office. CAD software (SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Inventor or similar). Experience with ERP/maintenance or engineering systems will be advantageous.
- Personal Qualities:** • Innovative, practical, quality-driven, detail orientated, safety conscious, team-player, pressure resilient, and results focused.
- Skills:** • Engineering design and problem-solving.
• Attention to detail and quality standards.
• Sound communication skills (written and verbal).
• Collaboration with production, workshop, and operations teams.
• Root cause analysis and continuous improvement.
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- Experience:** • 10–15 years’ relevant mechanical engineering experience.
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• Exposure to fabrication, machining, welding, and assembly processes.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OVERSIGHT ROLE

- Ensure adherence to engineering standards, safety requirements, and quality controls across the drilling fleet and all equipment-related activities.
- Provide technical oversight to the Buying, Procurement, and Stores functions to ensure correct specifications, quality, suitability, standardisation, and cost-effective sourcing of materials and components.
- Oversee and support workshop and production teams during the build, refurbishment, and modification of drilling equipment to ensure reliability, efficiency, and sustainability.
- Ensure compliance with company engineering, procurement, and safety procedures, supporting long-term fleet performance and operational continuity.

CORE ROLE

- Design, develop, and improve mining equipment, components, and assemblies.
- Drive equipment efficiency, durability, and maintainability improvements.
- Evaluate existing equipment and identify opportunities for performance enhancement.
- Collaborate with Stores, Buying, and Production to ensure cost-effective and quality-driven designs.
- Support failure investigations and implement corrective engineering solutions.
- Develop and maintain engineering drawings, specifications, and documentation.
- Participate in commissioning, testing, and continuous improvement initiatives.
- Create value through innovation, standardisation, and design optimisation.
- Reporting to management.

By applying for the position, you consent to Pioneer Drill & Blast (Pty) Ltd collecting, storing, using, destroying and processing in any other manner personal information for purposes of attending to this advertisement, and/or all matters relating thereto, including disclosure to third parties for verification purposes. If you do not hear from the Company within **21 days** after the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful. CVs of unsuccessful candidates will not be returned.

JOB REFERENCE: MECHANICAL ENGINEER – MINING EQUIPMENT (to be inserted in subject line).

Please send your updated CV, copies of certificates and proof of residence (e.g., Utility Account, Affidavit) to: cv@pioneerdb.co.za.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 27 APRIL 2026.

PIONEER DRILL AND BLAST (PTY) LTD (Registration number: 2017/371236/07)
Directors: JCT Beyers | ZV Potgieter

W17Apr26/Pioneer Mechanical Engineer/59104889836

Tafelkop residents take stand against crime

TAFELKOP - Residents of Tafelkop Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) Ward 25, are breathing a sigh of hope after a successful launching of the Community Policing Forum (CPF) to tackle the rising tide of crime in the area.

The CPF structure, which will operate at the village's Makorokorong and Mathselapata Sections, was established during a community meeting held at Rovers Sports Grounds on Friday 10 April 2026

The gathering was attended by the residents and Motetema Police, joined by other stakeholders such as the local traditional authorities.

The CPF launch was motivated by growing concerns over thieves targeting homes, particularly those of elderly residents, and stealing money.

The community's plea for action led to the election of a new CPF, with Johannes Nkgadima elected as Chairperson, Esther Mankge as Deputy Chairperson, Mahlatse Mokwena as Secretary, and Maria Chabangu as Deputy Secretary.

Nkgadima expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to lead the CPF, acknowledging the police's delayed response but commending their eventual presence.

Nkgadima highlighted the community's desperation, with residents living in fear due to prevalent criminal activities.

"We know of a group of young men terrorizing our community, but we won't take the law into our own hands. Instead, we opted to collaborate with the police to

apprehend the culprits through proper channels," he said.

Nkgadima indicated that they decided to take an initiative as his community is plagued by house break-ins and robberies, with elderly residents being targeted after collecting social grants.

"These criminals move around the village, checking for vulnerable targets. They attack people living alone or those they know are struggling, like the local school vendor who was robbed after returning home. The community is living in constant fear, with one victim tragically losing their life during a robbery," Nkgadima informed.

He said residents have also reported scams, with over a hundred people from Tafelkop and surrounding villages falling prey to fake farm job offers.

Nkgadima stressed that the new CPF is urging the police to address these issues and increase patrols, especially given the frequency of daytime robberies.

However, the community faces a significant challenge, a lack of vehicles at Motetema Police Station.

Nkgadima announced plans to approach Provincial Commissioner of Police Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, seeking intervention and additional police vehicles to combat crime effectively.

"The newly elected CPF is set to work closely with the police and community to restore safety in Ward 25. We want the police to conduct patrols day and night, and we need their support to make our community a safer place," urged Nkgadima.



The Tafelkop newly elected CPF is promising to work jointly with the Motetema SAPS to fight the scourge of crime in the village.



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Computer Skills:

- Microsoft Office incl Excel and Word.

Personal Qualities:

- Honest, reliable, positive, team-player, pressure resilient, deadline driven and persistent.

Skills:

- Electronic blasting certification (AECI - INTELLISHOT) and experience.
- Pyrotechnic blasting experience.
- Planning and detailed execution of plans.
- Multi-tasking.
- Problem solving.
- Safety driven.
- Excellent communication skills (written and verbal)

Experience:

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PUBLIC INVITATION
WESTERN CAPE

The Department of Employment and Labour (DEL), through its entity the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), cordially invites clients in the Breede Valley Local Municipality and surrounding areas to receive departmental services during a:

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

The campaign will take place as per the details below:

VENUE	DATE	TIME
Van Cutsem Combined School, De Doorns	Monday – Friday, 13 – 17 April 2026	08H30 – 15H00

Clients who wish to apply for UIF benefits must bring along the following:

- ID Document;
- Certified copy of passport document or Certified copy of Asylum Seeker document;
- Three months' payslip or three-month bank statement showing last three months' salary payment;
- Valid banking details;
- UI-19 form and salary schedule (where applicable);
- UI2.8 form.

UIF Benefits: Unemployment, Illness, Maternity, Dependants, Adoption, Reduced Work-Time, and Parental Leave

Other services that will be offered on the day:

- **IES** – Inspection and Enforcement Services and Employer Audit Service.
- **PES** – Public Employment Services.
- **COIDA** – Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act.

For enquiries please contact Buntu Nobebe on 082 090 9888.

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Police nab suspects involved in Limpopo business robbery spree



The BMW which was used by the suspects for the commission of crimes.

LEBOWAKGOMO - An intelligence driven operation in Lebowakgomo has resulted in the arrest of six suspects and the recovery of stolen goods, after weeks of targeted business burglaries across the province.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the arrests were carried out on Monday 13 April 2026, by a joint team from the Provincial Investigations Unit, the Tracking Team and private security firm Tshimollo Security and Investigation.

"After spate of business robberies, which occurred mainly on Sunday nights and Monday mornings across the province an intelligence driven operation was conducted on Monday to trace suspects who were possibly involved in this criminal activities. Intelligence was received that some of the suspects were seen in the Lebowakgomo shopping complex driving a blue BMW 3 series with five suspects," explained Ledwaba.

He said the operational team then pounced on the said vehicle and preliminary investigation pointed out that suspects committed business burglary at

Apel policing area.

"During the search of the vehicle, housebreaking equipment was found. Further search led to the discovery of balaclavas, hand gloves and some stolen groceries. Five suspects were arrested who are between ages of 33 to 47 and the suspects three are South African males while 02 are Zimbabwean nationals who are illegal in the country," Ledwaba informed.

He said the BMW the suspects were driving in was also seized as an instrument used in commission of crime.

"The intelligence was also received that another stolen stuff was sold to local businessmen in Apel. Upon arrival at the place, the stock was found and a 44-year-old Bangladesh national was arrested for possession and receiving stolen goods in terms of General Law Amendment Act 62 of 1955. It was also established that the suspect was also illegal in the country. Further charge of contravention of immigration act was included," Ledwaba furthered said.

He said the suspects are scheduled to appear before Sekhukhune Magistrate's Court soon.



The suspects after they were arrested in connection with a series of crimes committed around Limpopo Province.



The suspected stolen goods which were recovered by the police from a businessman in Apel.

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Magaile Enterprise

This isn't a story, **it's a journey.**

I am Modecia Phasha, proud owner of Magaile Enterprise, established in 2018. My company specialises in construction, with expertise in trench construction and dust suppression services.

I saw an opportunity from Glencore in our local community newspaper and applied, securing a 6-month contract with Glencore's Lion Smelter for Tailing Storage Facilities trench construction.

Stepping into the male-dominated mining industry was not easy, but Glencore's support has been a game-changer. Through their GIBS programme, I gained invaluable skills in project management and finance. That initiative plus their assistance in procuring a water truck transformed my business, propelling it to new heights.

Today, with 18 employees by my side, I see Magaile Enterprise soaring internationally in the next five years.

To aspiring entrepreneurs, especially women, I say: prepare your mind and seize every opportunity.

Progress. Together.

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