



LIMPOPO  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

**Thari Ya Tsela**  
**Le Tšhireletso ya Setšhaba**



## NEWSLETTER JAN-FEB 2021

### LAUNCH OF THE DTCS ONLINE TV



READ FULL  
STORY ON  
PAGE: 4



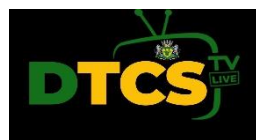
BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN  
PAGE: 5



TAXI DISINFECTION PROGRAMME  
PAGE: 6



DTCS SCOOPS SPECIAL  
MINISTERIAL AWARD  
PAGE: 8





# COMPLY AND FOLLOW HEALTH PROTOCOLS



**MEC MAVHUNGU LERULE-RAMAKHANYA**

Let me take this opportunity to welcome each one of you back at work in this first edition after a very busy festive season. It is unfortunate that we resume at the time when the country is placed in an adjusted lockdown level 3. The resurgence of the virus and the new variant has forced us to resort back to rotational working arrangement. It is not an ideal arrangement but under the current wave of COVID19, it is vital that we follow health protocols and reduce the spread of the virus. It is sad that we have started the year without some of our colleagues who have either succumbed to the deadly virus or died due to other causes. The lockdown restrictions prevented us from attending their funerals or to support their families during the mourning period at the time when they needed us most.

My sincere and heartfelt condolences to the families of all the staff members who passed on during this difficult lockdown period. I know as colleagues we feel the pain of losing people that we were very fond of and regarded them as family. It will take time for normalcy to be restored and the best we can do for now is to comply and follow protocols.

I also want to take this opportunity to applaud the front-liners who were hard at work during the festive season enforcing compliance. It has been a mammoth task for our Traffic officers and Safety awareness team members who worked tirelessly to discharge their responsibilities with a lot of dedication and pride amid the second wave of the pandemic. It is for that reason that as the province, we managed to reduce the road carnage by 8.3 percent in the previous festive season. We had targeted to reduce the fatalities by twenty percent as directed by Minister Fikile Mbalula but we are hopeful that the numbers will be reduced in the coming season.

We had a few hurdles in the beginning of this year and one had to hit the ground running. I had to ensure that hundreds of people who were stranded due to taxi violence involving Seshego, Moletjie, FloraPark and Mankweng Taxi associations got assistance. I want to commend the sterling work done by the team led by the HOD in bringing stability to the areas that were volatile and posed threats to human lives. I believe the team will still work around the clock to ensure that associations at loggerheads resolve their differences without resorting to violence. The safety of our commuters and other road users must always be a priority.

The department was also called to action following reports of Covid19 at the taxi ranks after some of them were identified as hotspots. We moved swiftly to assist in curbing the spread by donating sanitizers and disinfectant for the upkeep of the ranking facilities. We managed to Sanitize six taxi ranks in the five districts, starting from Mopani and ended at Northam in Waterberg. My sincere appreciation to the Taxi Council and donors for being part of the intervention programme.

Let me conclude by urging you to remain vigilant in our fight against the pandemic. The first batch of vaccines for our frontline health workers arrived last week. This is a positive sign that the government is determined to defeat covid19. A vaccinated nation will surely survive. We must be patient and register to be vaccinated so that we can achieve the most needed immunity. I will join thousands of our citizens who have pledged to be vaccinated when my turn comes because my actions will save lives. Let us once again fold our sleeves and serve with pride to deliver reliable transport and safety communities for our people.

# THE PROVERBIAL BALL IS NOW IN OUR COURT



**HOD: HANLI-DU PLESSIS**

It is indeed a huge honour and my pleasure to welcome you to the new year, 2021. I am sure that you will testify that we certainly experienced an energetic but also an emotional kick-off.

This year we shared in the very moving scenes when wreaths were laid by various people due to covid-19 related complications. It is with this sincerity that not only law enforcement, but also the people of the province are stating that one life lost in any incident is one life lost too many.

We need all the energy of your great ideas to design, improve and deliver sound strategies to enhance safety for all in our Province, Limpopo. As the HOD for Transport and Community Safety I draw courage from the strong partnerships that we have with various strong role players in the various law enforcement agencies. It is the mission of our department to make the province a safer place for all, whether on our roads, in our homes or places of work. We must note and acknowledge the fact, that even one road accident is one too many and constitutes, in my view, a crisis.

# POWER IS IN YOUR HANDS

The **COVID Alert SA** app can notify you if you have been exposed to another app user with coronavirus. Download it now to protect yourself and others.



## 0800 00 6694

**REPORT DRUNK AND RECKLESS DRIVING**  
**LET'S REDUCE TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS**



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## EDITOR'S COMMENT

I am thrilled to bring you this special edition, Jan to Feb issue. We are really inspired by the constant feedback received from team DTCS, the winning team.

We value your contributions, keep those feedbacks coming. We have since introduced a special way of receiving feedback in any possible form, be it advice, pointers, response, criticism, opinion, any kind of comments. In the month of March, we launch the Departmental communication survey (paper surveys), we further urge you to participate for the betterment of our organisation.

In addition to the articles and interviews that make up Thari Ya Tsela Le Tshireletso Ya Setshaba news, also keep an eye out for our communication survey. I urge you to be part of the survey; filling-in communication survey questionnaire gives you a chance; first; to be heard and for the department to draw conclusions and make important decisions. To get the accurate data, we need you to be as open and honest as possible with your answers. We are looking forward to the well-versed and informed analysis.



**The Year of Charlotte Maxeke:**  
Promoting Human Rights in the Age of  
COVID-19

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## LAUNCH OF THE DTCS ONLINE TV



Department of Transport and Community Safety (DTCS) in Limpopo launched the first online TV channel to update and brief the citizens on the progressive programmes of the Department. Communications Unit of the Department came up with the idea of broadcasting the MEC live on Zoom and Facebook platforms in a form of a questions and answer (Q & A) session elaborating on the programmes of the Department. The name of the talk show is called 'The Brief' on DTCS TV, the brainchild of Communications Unit in the Department.

The 30 minutes live broadcast ('The Brief') went on air on the 3rd February 2021 at the Department's Head Office building at Phamako Towers in Polokwane. MEC Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya was interviewed by the host of 'The Brief' TV programme Mr Mike Maringa who is the Media Liaison of the Department. 'The Brief' is a new platform where the MEC will be giving an account on various programmes and interventions of the Department from the previous months. The MEC will be afforded time to update the public and most importantly the media on the programmes of the Department. During the live broadcast, the programme presenter Mr Mike Maringa takes comments and questions from the Facebook viewers also from journalists on Zoom channel. Journalists who are connected on Zoom platform and on Facebook can ask any questions for the response of the MEC during the talk show.

The first show focused on the recent programmes and interventions of the Department namely, Disinfections of Taxi Ranks, Festive season statistics and the intervention of the Department on the taxi violence in Polokwane. The MEC focused on these key issues and responded to all questions asked by journalists and the public.

The DTCS TV ('The Brief' programme) is the new kid in the block and the first government Department TV channel to go live in Limpopo. The programme has been well welcomed by the viewers after its first broadcast that got over 1000 views within few hours of the broadcast.



# BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN IN THABAZIMBI



The Deputy Minister of Transport, Ms Dikeledi Magadzi donated Shova Kalula bicycles to pupils at the Northam Comprehensive School in Thabazimbi.

MEC for Education, Ms Polly Boshielo and other dignitaries joined the Deputy Minister during the handover ceremony. The Shova Kalula bicycle programme is part of the Department's Scholar Transport programme aimed at solving mobility problems for learners walking more than three kilometres to school. The National Department of Department delivered more than 100 000 bicycles to deserving schools in the nine provinces since 2001 when the programme commenced.

## **The bicycle project's mission is to, amongst others:**

Ensure that communities experience improving levels of mobility and accessibility by integrating rural, peri-urban, and urban people into an effective transport system.

To facilitate an enabling environment that will mainstream bicycle transport into public transport system through the provision of an appropriate institutional support mechanism; and

To develop and nurture micro-business enterprises to manage Shova Kalula shops independently in the long run.

# SANLAM DONATES COVID-19 PPEs TO DTCS



Chief Director for Traffic Regulation, Ms Jane Mulaudzi has received a donation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE's) from Sanlam as part of COVID-19 pandemic support and social solidarity. The support aims at strengthening the partnership with the Department to combat the spread of COVID-19.

In view of the current financial state of the country the PPEs donated will assist the Department greatly to comply with COVID 19 regulations.

"We appreciate the continued support from partners and businesses, this will ensure that there is adequate PPEs for the personnel of the Department as well as for the vulnerable groups". The following items were donated: Face Shields (71), Covid-19, Posters (50), Social Distancing Stickers (12), 25-liter Hand sanitizer (1).





# TAXI DISINFECTION PROGRAMME



MEC of Transport and Community Safety in Limpopo Lerule-Ramakhanya started her campaign on disinfecting and sanitizing taxi ranks at Tzaneen taxi rank in Mopani District on the 19th of January 2021 with the intentions of curbing the spread of Covid-19.

The Department is working together with Districts and local Municipalities across the province and District Taxi Councils to ensure that all taxi ranks and taxis are disinfected, all District Municipalities have benefitted from this campaign. Taxi ranks had been identified as one of the Covid-19 super spreaders in Limpopo Province. The Department has partnered with Taxi Associations and local municipalities to ensure that taxi ranks and taxis are disinfected before carrying passengers. (Yesterday) the MEC was donating Sanitizers and Sprayers at Northam Taxi rank in Waterberg District, she was accompanied by Acting Mayor of Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Mme Sanny Ndlovu, Ward Councillor of Ward 08 in Northam, Cllr Tshegofatso Ramoabi, the District Taxi Council Chairman, Mr Mogale and representatives of Taxi Associations together with SAPS. The Acting Mayor of Thabazimbi thanked the MEC for the efforts made to curb the spread of the virus in Waterberg Districts while taxi associations also welcomed the intervention of the MEC. Since the start of the campaign, MEC Lerule-Ramakhanya managed to distribute over 130 containers of disinfectants (20litres) and 500 sprayers to all Districts. The items will be shared among local taxi ranks across the province with the aim of combating the spread of Covid19.

While addressing commuters and taxi operators at Northam Taxi rank (yesterday) the MEC emphasized that taxi operators must not allow commuters to take trips without properly wearing masks and not sanitizing and commuters we urged not eat in the taxis once aboard. She further reiterated that the battle to defeat covid19 depends on all stakeholders to take responsibility and that her Department will continue to provide support to the Taxi Industry in this difficult time.



**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

## PROVINCIAL COURT WATCHING BRIEF



MR NGOAKO KGOMOKABOYA DEPUTY DIRECTOR: COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT

The Limpopo Court Watching Briefs is an initiative by the Department of Transport and Community Safety to act in accordance with the Constitutional provisions contained in Section 206 (3) of the Constitution, which provides that every province is entitled to monitor police conduct and report inefficiencies.

The Department's Court Watching Brief Unit (CWB) monitors criminal cases struck off the court roll because of possible SAPS inefficiencies.

Mr Kgomokaboya (Deputy Director: Complaints Management) is required to physically visit the various courts. His scope of work requires that he listen to the proceedings and whenever any kind of police inefficiency regarding the investigation or trial process appears, after the matter has been dealt with in court. As an official responsible for the Brief Watching, Mr Kgomokaboya is obliged to request for a copy of the charge sheet to preserve the document for later validation.

Cases that are scrapped from the court roll because of SAPS systemic failures are captured and reported to the Provincial Commissioner with the aim to facilitate a process where remedial action is taken to finalise these cases or to take disciplinary action where necessary.

"We must work together at every level of government, using every tool at our disposal to ensure safety and equality." Said Mr Kgomokaboya





# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SCOOPS SPECIAL MINISTERIAL AWARD



The Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety Mopani District recently won the Special Ministerial Award for recycling old blue lights.

The award was received during an awards ceremony hosted by the Department of Public Services and Administration in Gauteng.

Traffic Officers from Mooketsi Traffic Control Centre (Mopani District) were so smart that instead of running a vehicle with flashing blue lights the whole night, they recycled old blue lights from written off vehicles. They constructed a Stationary Blue Light at the traffic control centre, so that trucks know where to go into the weigh bridge. The initiative helped the department to save millions of rands in fuel and vehicle maintenance.

**The stationary blue light will also improve visibility on the approach and exit of the Mooketsi Traffic Control Centre.**

The team led by the Mopani District Director: Mr Joel Chauke entered for the category on the innovation, but their entry was thought to be way above the requirements for the category and the call of duty thus the special ministerial award. The awards single out projects that have made significant progress in improving public sector service delivery through implementing ground-breaking interventions.

The prize for Special Ministerial Award includes a cheque worth R30 000, a trophy and a certificate.

