

TIMELESS

NEWS

INCORPORATING LIMPOPO, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG - FRIDAY, 13 JUNE 2025

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"Thought Leaders in Community News"

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EFF CONDEMNS CAPITEC CEO'S CLAIMS ON UNEMPLOYMENT, STATS SA DEFENDS DATA INTEGRITY



Gerrie Fourie, CEO of Capitec Bank, argues for a reevaluation of South Africa's unemployment statistics, suggesting the real rate is significantly lower than reported.

By Thulane Madalane

Johannesburg: The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) has publicly condemned recent statements made by Gerrie Fourie, the Chief Executive Officer of Capitec Bank, regarding South Africa's unemployment statistics. The EFF asserted that South Africa's real unemployment crisis cannot be obscured by what they describe as public relations tactics

employed by wealthy corporate leaders. In their official statement, the EFF rejected Fourie's comments "with the contempt they deserve," highlighting that the expanded unemployment rate stands at approximately 42%, a figure that accounts for individuals who have stopped seeking work altogether due to despair. They emphasized that any attempts to misrepresent these figures are offensive to the millions of black South Africans who struggle daily without

employment, opportunities, or dignity. This response comes in light of Fourie's assertion that South Africa's official unemployment figures, which record a rate of 32.9% for the first quarter of 2025, are significantly overstated. He suggested that a more accurate figure might be closer to 10% if self-employed individuals and those working in informal markets were included. Fourie cited the misclassification of self-employed individuals, particularly vendors and others in informal trading environments, as a key issue contributing to the inflated unemployment rate.

Statistician General Risenga Maluleke responded to Fourie's claims in a letter addressed to the Business Day. He emphasized that it is "incorrect and misleading to suggest" that Stats SA neglects the informal sector in its assessments. He informed that the agency adheres to International Labour Organisation guidelines for classifying employment, designating informal workers as those who are unregistered for income tax and employed in establishments with fewer than five employees.

Maluleke stressed Stats SA's commitment to accurately measuring the informal sector, underscoring that the organization produces comprehensive reports, including a quarterly labor-force survey and self-employment assessments. He maintained that these data points are systematically tracked and reported to guide policy rather than distort the realities of the labor market.

"We urge industry leaders to engage more deeply with official statistics before questioning their validity," Maluleke remarked. "While constructive debate is encouraged, it should be based on solid evidence." Despite the criticism, Fourie contended that South Africa's unemployment rate is

inflated because it does not fully capture self-employed individuals, particularly in township economies where informal trading is common. He compared South Africa's economic conditions to those in Mexico, which features a significant informal sector but maintains a much lower unemployment rate.

With Capitec's vast data collection efforts, amounting to two trillion data points and an estimated three million "emerging" businesses, Fourie believes this data supports his argument of a vibrant informal economy that is being largely overlooked in official reports.

As the discussion continues, the disagreement highlights the complexities and challenges in accurately representing the deeply intertwined realities of informal labor markets and broader economic conditions in South Africa. The contrasting perspectives between corporate leaders and the government agency reflect ongoing debates about employment, dignity, and economic opportunities in the nation.

In parliamentary discussions, Trade, Industry and Competition Minister Parks Tau acknowledged that Fourie's observations carry weight, suggesting that Stats SA and South African society at large should incorporate the contributions of those in the informal sector when compiling unemployment statistics. He made these remarks during a briefing to the parliament's portfolio committee on trade, industry, and competition, which followed the release of Stats SA's quarterly labor force survey data showing that unemployment rose to 32.9% in the first quarter, coinciding with a mere 0.1% growth in GDP for the same period.

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MINISTER KUBAYI PAYS TRIBUTE TO FORMER JUDGE PRESIDENT CLEMENT TEMBA SANGONI

By Given Aphane

Pretoria: The Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Mmamoloko Kubayi, has expressed deep sorrow over the passing of former Judge President of the Eastern Cape Division of the High Court, Justice Clement Temba Sangoni, affectionately known as Aah! Dilizintaba. Justice Sangoni, who served his country with distinction, died at the age of 78 following a short illness.

In her heartfelt tribute, Minister Kubayi extended her condolences to the Sangoni family, highlighting the profound impact Justice Sangoni had on the judiciary and the community he served. "His passing is a profound loss, not only to the justice system but also to the nation, especially to the people under the Qokolweni-Zimbane Traditional Council, whom he served with distinction and dedication," she said. "They will remember him for his unwavering commitment to justice and community leadership."

Justice Sangoni was recognized as a stalwart of the judiciary and a respected senior traditional leader in Mthatha, known for his dedication to upholding the law and ensuring justice for all. Minister Kubayi noted that his contributions to the justice sector would be deeply missed, stating, "The passing of Justice Sangoni leaves a vacuum in the justice fraternity that can



Minister of Justice Mmamoloko Kubayi honors the legacy of Justice Clement Temba Sangoni, a distinguished figure in South Africa's judiciary, who passed away at the age of 78

never be filled. His contributions to the judiciary and the country at large will forever be remembered and cherished."

Justice Sangoni's remarkable legal career spanned over four decades. He served as a clerk in the Department of Justice early in

his career before being appointed as Judge President of the Eastern Cape Division in 2010. His leadership and vision were pivotal in shaping the judiciary and enhancing access to justice for all South Africans. Moreover, Minister Kubayi emphasized the significance of Justice Sangoni's contributions at a crucial time for South Africa, as the nation works to expand access to justice. She noted, "Justice Sangoni passes away at a critical time as South Africa is seized with efforts to expand access to justice. His death comes at a moment when the Department is intensifying its work on developing Traditional Courts Regulations aimed at aligning existing Traditional Courts with the values and principles of the Constitution." She reflected on Justice Sangoni's unique position, bridging both the judicial and traditional leadership spheres, suggesting that he would have made a substantial impact on this transformative work.

As the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Development mourns the loss of this remarkable individual, they join the Sangoni family, relatives, friends, and colleagues in honoring his legacy and commitment to justice. Justice Sangoni will be remembered not only for his judicial accomplishments but also for his profound dedication to the communities he served throughout his life.

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NUPSAW LIMPOPO DELIVERED MEMORANDUM TO MEC OF HEALTH AND BASIC EDUCATION

By Thulane Madalane

Plokwane: On Monday National Union of Public Service and Allied Workers (NUPSAW) in Limpopo organized a march to deliver a memorandum of demands to the offices of the MEC for Health and the Department of Basic Education. This action represented the voices of Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Grade R Teachers, advocating for their rights and recognition in the workplace.

During the march, NUPSAW called for the permanent absorption of various community health workers, including Community Care Givers, Lay Counsellors, Condom Distributors, Mother Mentors, and Peer Educators. These frontline workers formed the backbone of Outreach Teams, playing crucial roles in improving health outcomes, managing disease burdens, and ensuring effective illness prevention throughout their communities.

Despite a national discourse favoring the complete integration of CHWs into the health system, the Limpopo Department of Health struggled to keep pace. Unlike other provinces that actively prepared for the permanent integration of these essential workers, Limpopo faced challenges related to poor database management and administrative inefficiencies, which hindered significant progress.

Additionally, professional nurses who had been released for further training found themselves without proper recognition of their new qualifications. This lack of acknowledgment substantially undermined their roles and contributions within an already understaffed healthcare system.

One of the CHWs expressed frustration at the lack of recognition, stating anonymously, "We are the first line of care in our communities, yet we often feel invisible. It's time for the government to acknowledge our contributions and ensure we have secure jobs. We deserve to be treated with respect and given the



Community Health Workers and Grade R Teachers unite during the march, advocating for their rights and recognition in Limpopo's healthcare and education sectors. Pictir Credit: Thulane Madalane

opportunity to grow in our careers." This sentiment resonated with many others present at the event, emphasizing the urgent need for recognition and support for frontline workers.

The march also extended its focus to the Department of Basic Education, where NUPSAW demanded the permanent absorption of Grade R teachers. These educators play a pivotal role in

early childhood development, laying a foundation for learners' academic success. NUPSAW Provincial Secretary Ntata Sekgota emphasized the union's position, stating, "Community Health Workers (home-based caregivers) must be absorbed into the systems, and nurses who used their own funds to further their studies must be given a chance to compete for promotional posts and be appointed

based on merit. Equally important, we want our Grade R teachers to have similar recognition as those in higher grades." The march served as a significant demonstration of solidarity among community health workers and educators, highlighting the urgent need for their permanent recognition and integration into the respective sectors.

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STRONG WINDS CAUSE WIDESPREAD DAMAGE IN MPUMALANGA: COMMUNITY RECOVERY UNDERWAY



Severe thunderstorms, damaging winds

By Staff Reporter

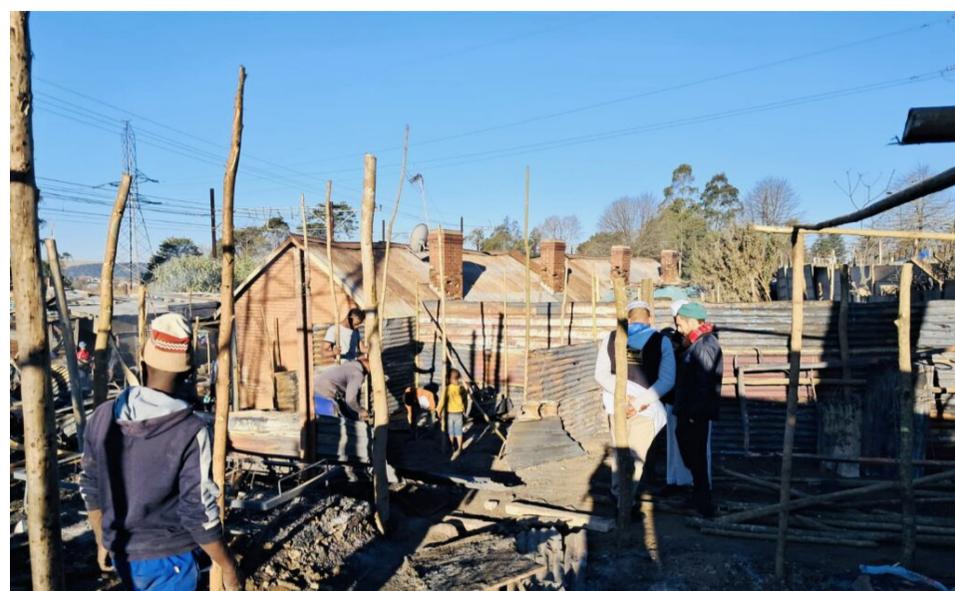
Mbombela: This week, nearly 100 households, along with several schools and public facilities, have been severely affected by strong winds in Mpumalanga. Disaster Management personnel are actively on the ground to assess the extent of the damage in various municipalities within the Ehlanzeni District Municipality.

On Monday, June 9, 2025, powerful winds swept through the district, wreaking havoc across multiple municipalities. A preliminary report indicated that 19 houses in Nkomazi, 42 in the City of Mbombela, 29 in Bushbuckridge, and eight in Thaba Chweu

Local Municipalities suffered damages, predominantly roof blow-offs.

The Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) has expressed concern over the significant destruction, particularly in the Pienaar area of Mbombela. This area experienced substantial damage to homes and educational facilities, leading to disruptions for the local community and infrastructure.

Reports from the Provincial Department of Education reveal that several schools have sustained damage, yet, in a reassuring note, it has been confirmed that all students scheduled to write their June examinations were able to do so without interruptions.



Disaster Management teams assess damage in Mpumalanga following destructive winds that impacted nearly 100 households and disrupted educational facilities. Picture Credit: Mpumalanga

This resilience from learners and educators during such challenging circumstances has drawn commendation from government officials.

To assist those affected, the Provincial Disaster Management Center is providing humanitarian aid, including temporary shelter structures such as trampolines—serving as makeshift shelter while recovery efforts are organized.

CoGHSTA MEC, Mr. Speed Mashile, stated that the Disaster Management Team is conducting thorough assessments to better understand the full scope of the damage. “We are working closely with relevant authorities and community partners to facilitate recovery efforts and provide

assistance to affected residents,” assured Mashile. He reiterated that the disaster management team remains on standby while continuing to monitor weather updates for any further developments.

The Ehlanzeni District Municipality is also committed to coordinating recovery efforts, convening Joint Operations Committee (JOC) meetings with other municipalities to generate comprehensive disaster reports. The focus remains on ensuring the safety and well-being of affected communities during this challenging time.

As the recovery efforts continue, the people of Mpumalanga stand united, demonstrating resilience in the face of adversity.

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GLENCORE COAL INVESTS IN 23 LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS WITH ESD PROGRAMME

By Thulane Madalane

Emalahleni: By investing in the skills, ambitions, and ideas of local entrepreneurs, Glencore Coal continues to empower local economies, one local business at a time. This was evident at the 2025 Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) Training Academy graduations which took place in Witbank, Mpumalanga on 28 May 2025, where 23 local business owners were celebrated for successfully completing the programme.

Now in its fourth year, the ESD Training Academy has become an important part of Glencore’s strategy to build stronger, self-sustaining communities around its operations. This year’s graduates represented a diverse mix of sectors from contract mining, engineering services, telecommunications and electrical services, all united by a shared commitment to growth.

The programme, in partnership with Regoapele Capital; an enterprise development consultancy which equips SMMEs with the tools to thrive; supplied each recipient with hands-on training in financial planning, operational management, leadership, and compliance; critical skills needed to grow successful businesses in competitive markets.

Otukile Moshori, CEO of Regoapele Capital, encouraged the graduates by saying, “It is possible to achieve the goals that you have set for yourself beginning today; you must apply the knowledge that has been imparted. You must make difficult decisions to remain a trading and viable business. This program is designed to match you with what the market requires; let us ensure that you follow through on



In a vibrant graduation ceremony on May 28, 2025, in Emalahleni, Glencore Coal marked the successful completion of its 2025 Enterprise and Supplier Development (ESD) Training Academy. With investments in local business owners and hands-on training in crucial business skills, Glencore is fostering sustainable growth and innovation in the community, ultimately driving economic progress

the journey that you have started.”

The 2024 group of trainees were divided into two fields: Enterprise Development, aimed at supporting early-stage businesses with strategic and operational guidance; and Supplier Development, designed to help more established enterprises integrate into formal value chains, including those within Glencore’s own operations.

“My journey with Glencore started with a vision to build a business that will stand the test of time and provide employment to the Emalahleni community. The programme has provided me with the necessary

support needed as I now feel better equipped and confident that Nkosana Enterprise can go to the next level. Thank you to the Glencore ESD team for your commitment to uplifting entrepreneurs like us.” Said Siphiwo Thabette, Founder of Nkosana Enterprise and ESD Graduate. To support their transition from training to implementation, graduates were each provided with tablets to enable them to run their businesses more efficiently and access new digital opportunities.

Thys Marx, ESD Manager from Glencore Coal shared his pride in the graduates’ achievements, “The experience from this

group of graduates has been amazing. Your success today is not just a personal victory; it is a true testament to the power of vision and collaboration. This day is a celebration of hard work and new beginnings, not only for you but also the communities in which you live.”

Through initiatives like the ESD Training Academy, Glencore is helping to advance tomorrow’s economy by unlocking potential, inspiring innovation, and driving sustainable progress in the communities it calls home.

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LIMPOPO WELCOMES G20 DELEGATES AT DIGITAL ECONOMY WORKING GROUP DINNER

By Staff Reporter

Polokwane: Acting Premier and MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Basikopo Makamu, is attending the G20 Digital Economy Working Group's welcoming dinner at the Ranch Resort in Polokwane. The evening aims to create a relaxed atmosphere for participants to foster connections and begin discussions. This occasion provided the Provincial Government an ideal platform to showcase Limpopo's rich tourism offerings and diverse wildlife. In his address, Acting Premier Makamu emphasized the province's warm hospitality, stating, "Limpopo is a warm province, with two summers; the mild and warmer." Highlighting the region's cultural values, Makamu echoed a sentiment prevalent in African culture: "In our African culture, we say a visitor come let's feast together. This is the time to let your hair down." The Premier stressed the government's commitment to inclusive growth, job creation, and tackling significant issues such as poverty and the rising cost of living. He noted that the discussions fostered during the gathering would play a vital role in achieving these objectives. "We firmly believe that the dialogues you engage in during this gathering will be instrumental in helping us reach these goals," Makamu

asserted. He further underscored the relevance of the digital transformation economy, stating that it transcends mere future potential, marking it as a current reality that must be embraced.

The dinner event gathered a mix of diplomatic corps and delegates attending the G20 Digital Economy Working Group meeting, which will run until June 11, 2025.

Key areas of focus for the Digital Economy Working Group include digital public infrastructure, digital skills development, and security within the digital economy. At the same time, the Working Group on Artificial Intelligence will delve into AI governance and ethical usage.

These two concurrent meetings aim to gather broad-ranging insights and facilitate discussions on crucial priorities, including:

- Connectivity for inclusive digital development
- Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)
- Digital Innovation Ecosystems to unlock potential for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
- Equitable, inclusive, and just artificial intelligence

As the G20 Digital Economy Working Group progresses, delegates are poised to engage in meaningful discussions that may pave the way for a more digitally connected and inclusive future for all.

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Acting Premier Basikopo Makamu hosts a welcoming dinner for G20 Digital Economy Working Group participants, highlighting Limpopo's rich tourism tapestry and the importance of digital transformation



LETJOBANA MALAPANE: BUSINESS LEADER, MEDIA PRACTITIONER AND PHILANTHROPIST

This week our focus turns to Letjobana Malapane as we celebrate Youth Month, Letjobana share her experiences as the Business Leader, Media Practitioner and Philanthropist, writes Thulane Madalane.

Thulane Madalane: Can you tell us how old you are and what inspired you to start your journey in community work?

Letjobana Malapane: I am a 27-year-old from Glen Cowie, Maswiakae, and I have always had a heart for helping people. However, my interest in community work fully developed when I started entering pageants and witnessed the challenges that underprivileged people in my community faced, which ultimately led me to start my own nonprofit organization (NPO).

TM: As a CEO and NPO founder, what unique challenges have you faced in engaging youth within your community?

LM: The challenges I have faced as a CEO and NPO founder based in a rural community include the lack of interest and urgency that the youth have when it comes to programs or initiatives that can develop them. We often have to encourage them to understand how they will benefit, and I believe this stems from them not being exposed to an environment with such opportunities available since primary school.

TM: What does Youth Month mean to you personally, and why is it important for young people?

LM: Youth Month represents celebrating the power I possess as a young woman and being a change-maker who is bold and relentless in the pursuit of her dreams. For us young people, Youth Month plays a significant role in reminding us that we have a voice and a role to play in our various societies and in the development of our country.

TM: In your opinion, what are some key issues affecting the youth in the

Jane Furse community today?

LM: The youth of Jane Furse are negatively impacted by substance abuse, particularly alcohol and drug abuse, which stems from high unemployment rates in our local area, as well as a lack of access to free skills development centers for young people. These issues contribute to crime, unemployment, and substance abuse.

TM: Can you share any specific projects or initiatives your NPO has implemented to empower young people?

LM: Through my NPO, I have donated clothes to the less privileged, conducted a career motivational tour, delivered motivational speeches at various schools, and initiated free modeling classes for youth from all over Makhuduthamaga for the past three years.

TM: How do you think social media has influenced the way youth engage with community issues today?

LM: I believe that the majority of youth are now more exposed to community issues due to social media. Some are utilizing their social media followings to collaborate with businesses and like-minded organizations to bring about change in their communities.

TM: What role do you believe youth should play in decision-making processes within their communities?

LM: I believe that no one knows their communities better than young people, and many of us have strategies that could efficiently and effectively address challenges in our

communities.

TM: As someone who has worked as a radio presenter, how has media influenced your outreach efforts with the youth?

LM: The media has solidified my voice and credibility among other young people, making it easier for me to craft initiatives that resonate with them and encourage them to take action.

TM: What advice would you give to young people looking to get involved in community service or activism?

LM: My experience has taught me that a little goes a long way. This, in my view, is a motivating factor to take charge in positively impacting your community or lending a hand.

TM: Can you share any success stories from your work that highlight the impact of youth involvement in your initiatives?

LM: So far, I can say that having provided modeling classes to more than 60 young girls is a success story for me. It means I have kept them off the streets and channeled their focus into something that contributes to their development.

TM: What skills or qualities do you think are essential for young leaders in the community?

LM: A young leader needs to be tenacious, confident, and dynamic. These three qualities, in my view, make any young person unstoppable.

TM: How can local organizations and government better support youth-led initiatives?

LM: I strongly believe in a

collaborative approach as a tool for creating greater change. Youth-led initiatives joining hands with the government, businesses, and local organizations will allow us to bring about the change we need.

TM: What changes would you like to see in your community that would benefit the youth, especially in terms of education and employment?

LM: I believe that every village needs to have a community hall that also serves as a skills development and arts center. This would enable our youth in schools to have career expos close to home, and it would provide graduates with experiential learning opportunities nearby.

TM: How do you balance your various roles as a CEO, PR Manager, and NPO founder while remaining connected to the youth?

LM: I am a dynamic person who thrives in spaces where I do what I love for a living. All my roles are interconnected, making it easy for me to stay connected with the youth.

TM: Looking ahead, what are your future goals or vision for the youth in your community, and how can others support this vision?

LM: The youth of Makhuduthamaga are highly talented, and I would like to see us taking over the media and arts industries. I plan to register my NPO to receive funding, and I would appreciate assistance from the local municipality and local organizations for my future community projects.

You can follow Letjobana Malapane on social media:

- **Twitter:** [@letjobanamalapane](https://twitter.com/letjobanamalapane) (<https://twitter.com/letjobanamalapane>)

- **Instagram:** [@letjobanamalapane](https://www.instagram.com/letjobanamalapane) (<https://www.instagram.com/letjobanamalapane>)

- **TikTok:** [@letjobamalapane](https://www.tiktok.com/@letjobamalapane) (<https://www.tiktok.com/@letjobamalapane>)

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MANAGER: EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

Ref: MPL/01/05/2025
Salary: R1 532 984.00

Requirements: An appropriate Bachelor's degree/diploma in Labour Relations or equivalent qualification
 • 3-5 Years' relevant managerial experience in employment relations environment
 • Insight into legislation and other prescripts impacting on employee relations
 • A thorough understanding of policy formulation, analysis and interpretation
 • Excellent communication skills
 • Good Conflict Resolution Skills and Negotiation Skills.

Key Performance Areas: Ensure correct interpretation and implementation of employee relations strategies, policies, procedures and practices
 • Manage Employer-Employee relations by ensuring that appropriate corrective measures are consistently implemented
 • Co-ordinate collective bargaining processes within the Legislature
 • Monitor and coordinate collective bargaining processes within the Legislature
 • Manage and monitor effective health and wellness programme, strategies, policies and procedures within the Legislature
 • Manage and implement OHS and COIDA related programmes, strategies, policies and procedures within the Legislature
 • Manage resources (Human physical and financial)

MANAGER: TABLING AND PROCEDURAL SERVICES

Ref: MPL/02/05/2025
Salary: R1 373 021.00

Requirements: The incumbent must be in possession of a Law degree (LLB)/Social/Economic Sciences and Public Management or Equivalent qualification
 • 3-5 Years' relevant managerial experience
 • Knowledge of Legislations & regulations governing direct service delivery
 • Report writing skills and computer Literacy
 • Ability to conduct desktop research
 • Understanding of policies and procedures in relation to general management including people and performance management
 • Proficiency in English as the fundamental floor language for proceedings of the house.

Key Performance Areas: Liaise with departmental staff and state enterprises to coordinate the tabling of departmental papers
 • Monitor and perform preliminary assessment on content compliance as per the set parliamentary procedures and standards for tabled documents prior referral to committees
 • Liaise with Committees Managers and Legal Services on NCOP mandates processing
 • Render support during sittings of the house
 • Be responsible for performance management and development of staff in the unit
 • Plan, direct, co-ordinate and oversee the operations of Procedural Services Unit.

ERP SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR

REF: MPL/05/05/2025
Salary: R 827 150.00 (excluding benefits)

Requirements: National Diploma in Information Communication Technology or related field
 • Certificate in SAP or at least 4 years working experience
 • Knowledge of Microsoft office, SCM, HR and finance
 • Ability to work under Pressure and have a great sense of responsibility
 • Extensive technical knowledge and ability to explain technical information to non-technical people
 • Must be able to work effectively with external vendor/service providers
 • Must have good communication skills.

Key Performance Areas: Provide SAP first-line support and submit quarterly report on modules-maintained according to approved maintenance plan
 • Assist in managing configuration for new or amended SAP requirements and products
 • Assist in managing module related backups
 • Maintain application knowledge base by creating and maintaining appropriate documentation for SAP support and change request
 • Update Training Plans, schedules and attendance registers
 • Develop and Update SAP modules' procedure manuals
 • Assist in implementation and support SAP Authorisation and/or Finance modules, improvement or automation of SAP Processes
 • Monthly report on User account updates, Change Request Forms and Authorisations review report
 • Incident Management on SAP Authorization.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

REF: MPL/03/02/2025
Salary: R 583 163.00 (excluding benefits)

Requirements: a Bachelor's Degree/ Diploma in Communications/ Marketing/ Public Relations/ Journalism/ Media Studies
 • at least three years' experience in communications
 • ability to work under pressure and irregular hours
 • computer literacy and a valid driver's license
 • sound knowledge of photography
 • Good writing skills.

Key Performance Areas: Update and upload information on the Legislature activities to the plasma screens, notice boards and snapper frames
 • Coordinate branding and marketing of all Legislature events
 • Provide communication support to Legislature Committees
 • Attend Legislature Committee meetings
 • Write newsletter articles and social media updates, create a distribution list for Legislature promotional material and coordinate distribution.

S&T OFFICER

REF: MPL/04/02/2025
Salary: R 515 249.00 (excluding benefits)

Requirements: Grade 12
 • national Diploma/Degree in Finance or Relevant qualification
 • experience in the finance field of work
 • SAP system experience will be an added advantage
 • knowledge of document management and mathematical accuracy
 • computer literacy.

Key Performance Areas: Capture all subsistence and travelling claims received, effectively and efficiently
 • Ensure compliance with appropriate procedures and processes within the financial accounting unit
 • Assist the Record Keeping Officer with sorting payment vouchers
 • Create, maintain and update vendors, once off vendors and other third-party master data on SAP
 • Reconcile transactions between payroll and FI prior to processing of third-party payment.

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Please visit the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature website at www.mpuleg.gov.za

NOTE: Applications must be submitted on form Z.83, obtainable from any Public Service department and must be accompanied by a comprehensive CV and certified copies of ID and qualifications. Please forward your application quoting the relevant reference number, to:

The Secretary to the Legislature, Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature Private Bag X11289, Mbombela, 1200 or e-mailed to recruitment@mpuleg.gov.za; or hand delivered to Boabab Building No.1, Government Boulevard, Legislature and Government Complex, Riverside Park Ext. 2, Mbombela, 1200

Successful candidate will be required to sign a performance agreement, annually disclose his/her financial interests to the Secretary/Speaker of the Legislature and will be subjected to security clearance. All successful management candidates would be subjected to competency assessments. Correspondence is limited to shortlisted applicants. Late or faxed applications will not be considered.

Enquiries: Mr JB Silinda Tel: (013) 766 1147
Closing Date: 27 June 2025

WE ARE
HIRING

- MANAGER: EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND PEOPLE MANAGEMENT
 - MANAGER: TABLING AND PROCEDURAL SERVICES
 - ERP SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR
 - COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
 - S&T OFFICER



Candidates With Disabilities Are Encouraged To Apply



SERMON BY GIVEN: **GUARD YOUR FAITHFULNESS**

GUARD *Your* FAITH

Beloved in Christ, today we gather in the spirit of unity and love to reflect on a precious truth: the significance of being faithful to God. In a world filled with distractions and temptations, it is essential that we guard our faithfulness with all our hearts.

Scripture teaches us that prayer is not merely a ritual; it is the lifeblood of our relationship with the Lord. When we commit to constant prayer, we allow God to draw out the best in us. It is through prayer, coupled with the reading of His Word, that we nurture our spiritual lives. Our spirit man grows stronger, enabling us to discern the will of God in our lives. As we immerse ourselves in His Word, we begin to desire what pleases Him rather than our own

fleeting desires.

Let us consider the words of the Apostle James, who writes in James 4:8, "Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you." This is an incredible promise! The act of drawing near to the Lord requires intentionality and commitment. We must be steadfast in cleansing our hands and purifying our hearts, for it is in this state that we can approach God in truth and sincerity. Beloved, it is imperative that we guard our relationship with the Lord. We must take our spiritual lives seriously. Every day presents us with choices that can either strengthen or weaken our bond with God. Let us not become complacent or allow anything to distract us from our path, for the enemy seeks to sow seeds of doubt

and temptation. Instead, take every sin or stumbling block to the feet of Jesus. Confess your failures, repent with a sincere heart, and receive the grace to overcome. Never compromise your spiritual integrity for the sake of convenience or acceptance. Remember, when we choose faithfulness over compromise, we become vessels that God can count on. He desires to use us for His glory, but we must first be true servants of the Most High.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, we are reminded, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." This scripture encapsulates the essence of a faithful life—constant rejoicing, unceasing prayer, and a grateful heart. As

we approach God with these attitudes, we will find that He draws near to us, ensuring that we are never alone in our journey.

As we wrap up our time together, let us make a commitment to guard our faithfulness. Embrace the opportunity to grow closer to God through prayer and His Word. Let us rejoice, give thanks, and remain faithful in all circumstances. God, who is everlasting and unfailing in His faithfulness to us, deserves our unwavering loyalty. May we leave this place today with renewed determination to cultivate our relationship with Him, knowing that as we keep our hearts aligned with His will, we will experience His presence in profound and life-transforming ways.

Amen.

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**Draw
close
to God
and He
will
draw
close
to you**

James 4:8



ALWAYS BE JOYFUL.

NEVER STOP PRAYING.

BE THANKFUL.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18



SAMSUNG GALAXY S25 ULTRA POLISHED! POWERFUL!

By Given Aphane

The Samsung Galaxy S25 Ultra has officially arrived, quickly establishing itself as one of the most coveted smartphones on the market. With a price tag of R26,999.00, the device is targeted at users seeking unmatched performance, cutting-edge technology, and an overall sophisticated experience. After spending some time with the Galaxy S25 Ultra, I'm excited to share my impressions of this powerful device.

From the moment you lay your eyes on the Galaxy S25 Ultra, the stunning display captures your attention. Samsung is renowned for producing some of the finest screens in the industry, and this model upholds that reputation. The massive 6.8-inch Dynamic AMOLED 2X screen boasts a resolution of 3200 x 1440 pixels, delivering vibrant colors, deep blacks, and excellent visibility even under bright sunlight. The 120Hz refresh rate ensures smooth scrolling and a responsive touch experience, making it a delight for gaming and multimedia consumption.

The overall design of the S25 Ultra is sleek and modern, featuring a glass back and an aluminum frame that exude a premium feel. The camera module on the back is elegantly integrated, balancing aesthetic appeal with functional prowess. Built to withstand the elements, the device is both water and dust resistant (IP68), making it suitable for various environments.

At its core, the Galaxy S25 Ultra is powered by the latest Exynos (or Snapdragon, depending on the region) processors, accompanied by up to 12GB of RAM. This powerful combination means that whether



multitasking, playing graphic-intensive games, or enjoying your favorite streaming services, the performance remains consistently seamless. Throughout my usage, I experienced zero lag, emphasizing the device's capabilities.

An impressive aspect of this phone is the integration of AI technology. From camera enhancements that improve night photography to smart recommendations that optimize device performance, the AI capabilities truly shine. This extends to battery management as well, allowing users to enjoy longevity without sacrificing performance.

The camera system is arguably the S25 Ultra's standout feature. With a staggering 200MP main lens, an ultra-wide lens, and dual telephoto lenses, this phone is a titan in mobile photography. The level of detail in images is astonishing, while the ability to shoot in multiple modes, including 8K video, adds versatility. Low-light performance has improved significantly, thanks to advanced software algorithms and a larger sensor. AI processing enhances portrait shots, producing images with striking clarity and color accuracy—ideal for photography enthusiasts seeking professional results without complex editing software.

Battery life plays a crucial role in any smartphone, and the Galaxy S25 Ultra features a robust 5,000mAh battery, easily lasting a full day of heavy usage. With adaptive power-saving modes and efficient AI management, I found myself recharging only every two days with moderate use, which is impressive. The inclusion of fast charging and wireless charging features minimizes downtime, ensuring you remain connected.

Running on Android 14 with Samsung's One UI 6.0, the Galaxy S25 Ultra offers a user-friendly interface filled with customization options. The software experience feels polished, featuring intuitive navigation along with an abundance of tools designed to boost productivity. One UI continues to excel at providing users with granular control over their devices, ensuring a personalized experience.

Samsung Galaxy S25 Ultra stands as a testament to Samsung's dominance in the premium smartphone market. With its beautiful display, powerful performance, exceptional camera capabilities, and long-lasting battery life, it appeals to tech enthusiasts, photographers, and everyday users alike. While the price is on the higher end, the features and advancements more than justify the investment. If you're on the lookout for a polished, powerful device packed with AI features to enhance your entertainment and productivity, the Samsung Galaxy S25 Ultra is a stellar choice. The price currently starts at R26,999.00.

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TIMELESS BOOK REVIEW :

WHO AM I? BLACKS' AWAKENING" BY PATSON PHALA

By Thulane Madalane

In "Who Am I? Blacks' Awakening," Patson Phala invites readers on a profound journey of self-discovery and empowerment within the context of Black identity. Unlike conventional discussions that may lean heavily on philosophical doctrines or purely sociopolitical analyses, Phala emphasizes the importance of engaging with the urgency of logic and reason to foster critical thinking among individuals seeking to understand themselves and their place in society.

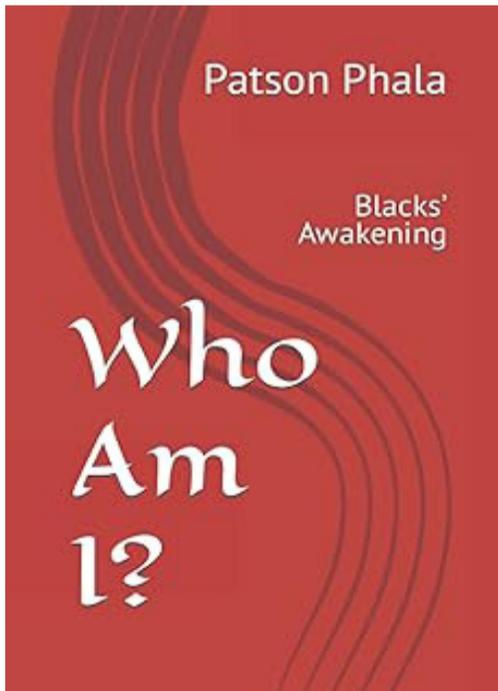
The text grapples with the complexities faced by Black communities—highlighting social, political, and scientific concerns. Phala's argument appears to distill these issues into a call for introspection and enlightenment. He posits that there is a pressing need to awaken "unreasonable minds," encouraging readers to reach a higher level of critical thought that aligns with their inherent worth and dignity.

Phala's writing is both a reflection on collective identity and a personal exploration of what it means to navigate life as a member of the Black

community. The use of the phrase "truths about Thyself" encapsulates the core mission of the book, resonating as a powerful reminder that understanding one's identity is an essential step toward collective empowerment and pride.

The author's style—thought-provoking yet accessible—opens the door for readers from all backgrounds to engage with the material. He deftly intertwines personal narrative and broader social commentary, creating a multifaceted discussion that prompts readers to reflect on their own identities and experiences. Ultimately, "Who Am I? Blacks' Awakening" serves as both a philosophical treatise and a rallying cry for self-awareness and critical inquiry. Phala's passionate call to action inspires

readers not only to seek their own truths but to engage meaningfully with the broader issues that shape their lives and communities. The book is a valuable contribution to contemporary discussions about race, identity, and the journey toward personal and collective awakening.



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TIMELESS CAR REVIEW :

2025 MERCEDES-BENZ GLB-CLASS

By Aisha Zardad

Overview
The bottom rung of Mercedes-Benz's SUV ladder is occupied by two related subcompact models: the GLB-class you see here and the slightly smaller and more curvaceous GLA-class. These two are priced and equipped similarly, and they use the same 221-hp turbocharged four-cylinder, with a 48-volt mild-hybrid system backing it up. Front drive is standard, with all-wheel drive an option. The boxier GLB is the more practical of the pair, with more interior volume and an available third row of seats, while the GLA is the more style-conscious choice. The GLB is a competent if unexciting handler, and it offers a smooth ride and a nicely trimmed interior. Competitors such as the Audi Q3, the BMW X1, and the Lexus NX offer more standard equipment, whereas Benz charges extra for things like lane-departure warning. There's more competition from within the brand as well: Mercedes sells an electric version of the GLB dubbed EQB, its smallest EV offering. And there's a performance-oriented, gas-powered AMG version, the 302-hp GLB35, which we review separately. So, if you're into the GLB, there are plenty of choices on the menu to consider.



Behind the three-pointed star on the GLB's grille is a turbocharged 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine that makes 221 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque. A 48-volt hybrid system was new for 2024 and its starter-generator is able to add 13 horsepower under certain conditions. The engine is paired with an eight-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission and either front- or all-wheel drive. We didn't find the GLB250 to be particularly sporty, but its ride and handling are agreeable and competent for an SUV of this size.

Interior, Comfort, and Cargo

The GLB-class has a spacious interior, with 20 cubic feet of cargo space behind the second-row seats and 62 cubic feet with those seats folded down, which is almost equal to that of the next-size-up BMW X3. The base GLB isn't very well appointed, but it does come standard with power-heated front seats, dual-zone automatic climate control, and a tilt-and-telescoping steering wheel. Ventilated seats

will cost you extra, and a small third row of seats is also optional. We expect most buyers will spend money outfitting their GLB250 with popular luxury features such as leather upholstery and interior ambient lighting.

Infotainment and Connectivity

While lacking a robust amount of standard interior equipment, the GLB-class makes up for some of that with its infotainment and technology offerings. A pair of 12.3-inch displays handle driving info and entertainment, and they come standard on every GLB250. There are plenty of ways to link your phone to the GLB250, including wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, four USB-C ports, and Bluetooth.

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What's New for 2025?

Mercedes made only minor changes to the GLB this year. A new appearance package is now available called Night Package Lite, which adds a darkened aesthetic to the GLB's exterior. A 360-degree exterior camera system can be ordered as a standalone feature.

Engine, Transmission, and Performance

TIMELESS SPORT

PROMISING YOUNG TALENT SHINES AS BAFANA BAFANA DEFEATS MOZAMBIQUE 2-0



By Thulane Madalane

Polokwane: Bafana Bafana secured a convincing 2-0 victory over Mozambique in an international friendly at the New Peter Mokaba Stadium on Tuesday night, an encounter that illuminated the potential of South Africa's emerging football stars. The match was particularly significant as Coach Hugo Broos rolled out an entirely revamped starting line-up following Friday's match against Tanzania, providing opportunities for young players like Mbekezeli Mbokazi, Samukele Kabini, and Yanela Mbuthuma to make their inaugural appearances for the national team.

From the beginning, Bafana Bafana exhibited an attacking mindset, eager to claim the first goal. Mohau Nkota was particularly lively, creating early chances, including a near miss that forced Mozambique's goalkeeper, Ivane Urrubal, into an impressive save. Urrubal's abilities were on full display as he continued to thwart South African efforts, including a critical save from Relebohile Mofokeng's one-on-one attempt, and shortly after, he managed to stop a close-range shot from Sinoxolo Kwayiba.

As the match approached halftime, Mofokeng had yet another opportunity to score, and despite his best efforts, Urrubal remained a formidable barrier, sending the teams into the break scoreless. After halftime, Mozambique made a tactical adjustment, substituting Shaquille for Jonathan Muiomo. Meanwhile, Bafana

maintained their momentum and quickly found the breakthrough just a minute into the second half. Kwayiba headed in a well-placed corner from Nkota, marking an exciting milestone as it was his first goal under Broos.

Building on their lead, Bafana Bafana sought to double their advantage almost immediately. Nkota came close again, forcing Urrubal into another corner with a well-executed shot. Coach Broos recognized the need to inject fresh energy into the team, making a triple substitution that included goalkeeper Renaldo Leaner, as well as Oswin Appollis and Ashley Cupido.

Cupido showcased his potential in the last 20 minutes of the match, capitalizing on a cross-field pass from Nkota to launch a stunning shot into the top corner, further extending Bafana's lead. This goal underscored the team's attacking prowess and the depth of talent in the squad. Though Mozambique struggled for most of the match, they nearly found a consolation goal late on when Shaquille attempted a glancing header in the dying minutes. However, Leaner's quick reflexes ensured that Bafana Bafana's clean sheet remained intact.

Ultimately, Bafana Bafana's 2-0 victory highlighted not just the team's current capabilities but also the promise of their younger players who are ready to make their mark on the international stage.

Emerging Bafana Bafana Stars Secures 2-0 Victory Over Mozambique, Showcasing Young Talent at New Peter Mokaba Stadium!"