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**Basotho threatened in South Africa**

2



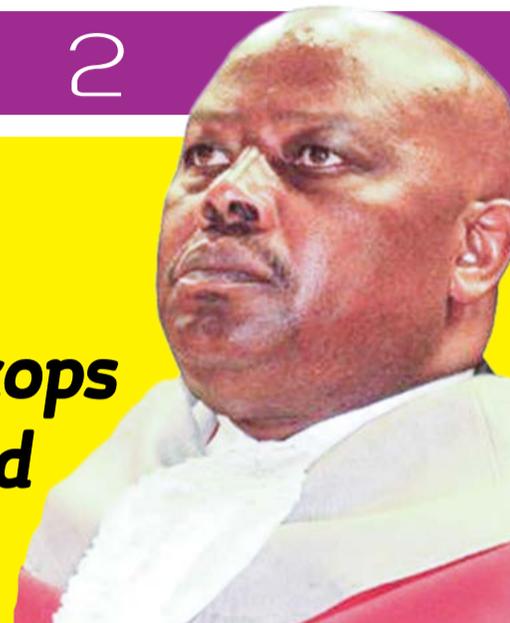
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# Metro

*News you can use*

**Judge wants rogue cops arrested**

2



**Mothers say "no" to COVID 19 vaccines**

9

THURSDAY January 20 - 26, 2022

Tel.: 266 2232 5494

editor@maserumetro.com

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Est. 2017



# MPS' TIGHT CONTROL OVER CBL IMMINENT

- **NRA says an Act of Parliament shall provide for specific objectives and functions of CBL**
- **Proposed clauses include ensuring greater independence and autonomy of the bank**

3

## MATLANYANE APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF AERC

- **She has served as a member of the AERC Programmes Committee from 2008 to 2014**
- **She was also the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the CBL**

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# Regulars

Get your own **NEWS** everyday

**READ Online** [www.maserumetro.com](http://www.maserumetro.com)

- Veges supply dwindles at Maluti Fresh Produce
- Meet Lesotho's best mountain bike mechanic
- Katse Dam's spillover after a decade



## BORN ON THIS DAY

January 20

- 1980 - Matthew Tuck, Welsh guitarist (Bullet for My Valentine), born in Bridgend
- 1981 - Freddy Guzmán, Dominican baseball player, born in Santo Domingo
- 1981 - Owen Hargreaves, English football player & television pundit, born in Calgary, Canada
- 1981 - Crystal Lowe, Canadian actress & model, born in Vancouver, British Columbia
- 1983 - Geovany Soto, Puerto Rican baseball player, born in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 1983 - Paula Taylor, Thai actress & model, born in Bangkok, Thailand
- 1983 - Mari Yaguchi, Japanese singer (Morning Musume), born in Yokohama, Japan
- 1984 - Olivia Hallinan, English actress, born in Hounslow, United Kingdom
- 1984 - Toni Gonzaga, Filipino singer and actress, born in Rizal, Philippines

## NewsBriefs

### Basotho threatened in South Africa

...Previous xenophobic attacks were on Nigerians but now all foreigners are targeted

**MASERU** – South African citizens are threatening to kick out Basotho living in that country, claiming that they along with other foreigners are occupying most their jobs while also ruining their country.

"These are not just threats they are making, on numerous previous occasions they actually carried out the intimidations they made," said Lerato Nkhetše from the Migrant Workers Association (MWA).

He noted that on previous occasions, the Nigerians were the main targets, adding however that the current threats had now extended to Basotho as well.

"Basotho are making matters worse by getting involved in the looting and vandalism that are taking place in some areas in South Africa. Most of them are not even in that country lawfully as they are either undocumented or working without permits," Mr Nkhetše also said.

Their fear, he said was that most Basotho were going to lose their jobs in South Africa, plunging their own country further into the high unemployment crisis.

"Several companies are going to be shut down and the rate of crime will escalate with many people out of jobs," he warned, adding that the dilemma was going to affect both Lesotho and South Africa in many similar ways.

"Our association is seeking intervention from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant stakeholders as this matter will impact negatively on Lesotho and many Basotho."

Mr Nkhetše appealed to Lesotho nationals living and working in South Africa not to respond with violence as that could aggravate the situation.

He said certain political parties in SA used anti-migrant rhetoric in the past local government election campaigns which, experts warned would fuel xenophobic violence.

"We are aware that some political parties have focused their campaigns on migrants, blaming them for poor service delivery, which is not true. It only created tension between migrants and the SA nationals," he said.

Xenophobic attacks are a recurrent phenomenon in South Africa. In 2019, several shops and property belonging to African migrants were burnt or looted by locals during the violence that claimed at least a dozen lives. Nigeria was outspoken in its condemnation of the violence. In 2015, Zimbabwe had to repatriate thousands of its nationals in the aftermath of the xenophobic attacks.

At least 62 people died in xenophobic attacks that rocked South Africa in 2008. LeNA/Metro

### Sakoane wants rogue cops arrested

Defence lawyer severely tortured while another lawyer goes into hiding for fear of the police

**MASERU** – Chief Justice Sakoane Sakoane who is presiding over the treason case against a senior political leader and four members of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) says police officers who allegedly tortured the lawyer representing some of the accused should be held accountable.

This, after the High Court was on Friday informed by another defence lawyer, King's Counsel Motiea Teele that Advocate Napo Mafaesa was not before court because he reported ill after he was allegedly tortured by police. The court further learnt that another lawyer, Adv Kabelo Letuka who is also involved in the case had gone into hiding due to the intimidations he received from the same police.

The judge said the police officers implicated in the assault should be slapped with charges of aggravated assault. He said the conduct of the officers who were the agents of the state, had affected the trial as the lawyers were now afraid of returning to court.

"I cannot have an officer of the court being

tortured by the police, the court pronounced itself years ago on the abuse of the officers of the law by the police," he said.

He said the police officers involved should be arrested and accordingly prosecuted. The accused include the Minister of Development Planning who is also leader of Movement for Economic Change (MEC), Selibe Mochoboroane together with the former army boss, Lieutenant General Tlali Kamoli and Litekanyo Nyakane, Motloheloa Ntsane along with Leutsoa Motsieloa. They are accused of murder, attempted murder, risk to injury or death and aggravated assault.

The charges have already been read to the accused and they are yet to plead. The accused were initially charged together with former Deputy Prime Minister who is also the leader of Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD), Mothetjoa Metsing. Metsing became a fugitive last year when he evaded a court appearance and he remains at large.

LeNA

## FastFACTS

The red-billed quelea is the most common bird on Earth

There may not be any red-billed queleas in your neighbourhood, but that's not because there aren't an abundance of them. These birds, which live in sub-Saharan Africa, are considered agricultural pests because their massive flocks can obliterate entire crops. Although their numbers fluctuate, there are around 1 to 10 billion queleas, which leads scientists to believe that there are more of them than any other bird on Earth, according to Audobon.

## On This Day in History

2017



January 20

### Donald Trump is inaugurated

In the culmination of his extraordinary rise to power over a tumultuous election year, Donald John Trump is inaugurated as the 45th president of the United States in Washington, D.C.

From the time he kicked off his presidential campaign in June 2015 at his namesake Trump Tower in New York City, Trump seemed an unlikely candidate for the nation's highest office.

But with his brash promises to crack down on immigration, bring back jobs for working class Americans and overturn the political establishment, the endlessly controversial real estate developer and reality TV personality triumphed amid a crowded Republican primary field. He then pulled off an upset victory over his Democratic opponent, Hillary Clinton, in the general election in November 2016.

On a rainy Inauguration Day, a crowd of supporters - many of them wearing Trump's distinctive red "Make America Great Again" caps - gathered to watch the inaugural ceremonies, held on the West Front of the Capitol Building.

Though crowd experts estimated that between 300,000 and 600,000 people attended Trump's inauguration (around a third of the crowd on hand for the 2009 inauguration of his immediate predecessor, Barack Obama), the White House and Trump himself disputed that assessment, claiming the media deliberately underestimated the crowd total.

## ALL JOKES ASIDE

### Children with same names

A woman had 20 children, ten girls and ten boys. All of their names were Leroy. Boys spelt Leroy girls spelt Lerough.  
One day she met a man and told him how many children she had and what their names were. "Why did you name all of your children Leroy/Lerough?" The man asked.  
"It's easy to call them all together. For example; Leroy/Lerough! time for bet, time for supper." She laughed.  
The man asked: "How do you call them if you only need one of the children?"  
The woman cackled: "By their last names of course!"

## Quotes & Quips!

"I started training with the club from Wednesday (last week). I knew that I would be coming back here because the club had made a promise that it would have another look at me in January. The fact that the club asked me to remain in shape for when I returned in January gives me hope that it has seen something it likes in me,"

said Rethabile Rasethuntša, Likuena and Linare defender, after he attended trials at the South African DSTV Premiership side, Swallows FC last week.



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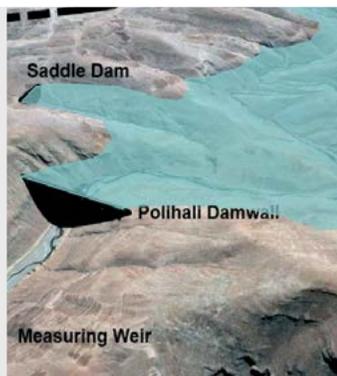
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## M454 million Polihali housing project kick- starts

4



# Metro BUSINESS

### COMMODITIES (International Rates in US\$)

STOCKS		PRECIOUS METALS	
S&P500	4,662.85	Gold p/ounce	1,818.66
NASDAQ100	15,611.59	Platinum p/ounce	988.89
Nikkei225	28,257.25	Silver p/ounce	23.48
Dow Jones30	35,911.81	Copper p/ounce	4.42
FTSE 100	7,571.23	Brent Oil p/barrel	87.75
JSE	74,883.00	EQUITIES	
Hang Seng	24,047.79	Bonds	18.44
		Treasury Bills	3.67
		Interest Rates	91

### AGRICULTURE (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Maize Meal p/kg	M7.00	Eggs p/tray	M45.00
Wheat Meal p/kg	M10.00	Milk (fresh) p/litre	M16.00
Cabbage p/kg	M14.00	Milk (sour) p/litre	M20.00
Potatoes p/kg	M10.50	Rice p/kg	M30.00
Brown Bread p/loaf	M10.00	White Sugar p/kg	M22.00
White Bread p/loaf	M11.00	Brown Sugar p/kg	M25.00
Sorghum Meal p/kg	M25.00	Beef p/kg	M85.00
Brown Beans p/kg	M30.00	Mutton p/kg	M90.00
Tomato p/kg	M15.00		

### ENERGY (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Petrol Unleaded 93 p/litre	M16.35
Unleaded 95 p/litre	M16.55
Diesel 50PPm p/litre	M16.65
Paraffin p/litre	M12.00
Water (Domestic) p/litre	M5.53
Water (Industrial) p/litre	M15.03
Electricity (Domestic) p/unit	M1.38
Electricity (Industrial) p/unit	M0.26
Gas p/kg	M20.00

## MPs' tight control over CBL imminent

- NRA says an Act of Parliament shall provide for specific objectives and functions of CBL
- Proposed clauses include ensuring greater independence and autonomy of the bank

**NEO SENOKO**  
[business@maserumetro.com](mailto:business@maserumetro.com)

**MASERU** – The National Reforms Authority (NRA) is pushing for greater independence of the Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL) by including it in the constitution, arguing it will among others inspire international confidence in governance quality of the country.

The NRA said an Act of Parliament should provide for specific objectives, functions, powers and operations of the CBL. The Chairperson of the NRA's Economic Sector Reforms Committee, Mammako Mohale Lerata said the proposed clauses included ensuring greater independence and autonomy of the bank and freeing it from pressures and interference in the course of carrying out its functions.

"With regard to the Central Bank of Lesotho, the committee recommends anchoring the establishment of CBL in the Constitution so as to meet internationally acceptable standard practices for institutions of its nature", Mrs Lerata said when tabling the economic report before



The Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL)

the NRA.

"Fire wall between the Central Bank and the Ministry of Finance is imperative to enable necessary counter-balancing of fiscal and monetary policies in order to maintain macroeconomic and financial stability in the country."

According to the committee, a properly constituted and competently managed central bank evokes confidence of the international community, signaling proper macroeconomic and financial management of a country.

It has the effect of strengthening sovereignty, and enhancing requisite dependability of the country globally.

Mrs Lerata said the development cooperating partners, actual and potential international financial institutions preferred to engage with countries that have independent and autonomous central banks. She said the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank Group (WBG), Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the African Development Bank Group (AfDBG) and others, favoured central banks that were competently

and efficiently managed with relevant enabling legislation based on international models.

"Both the African Union and SADC are guiding central banks along the same lines in readiness for eventual economic and financial cooperation and union", Mrs Lerata said. "The CBL has to be accorded that status which is in line with international practices, standards, norms and trends."

She said the economic committee recommended that the central bank should be a body corporate having perpetual succession, a common seal

and capable of suing and being sued in its name and which shall be independent and autonomous and free from influence or interference in the discharge of its mandate.

"It shall be responsible for formulating, adopting and executing monetary policy, maintaining financial and price stability, issuing of currency, enabling payment, clearing and settlement systems, conducting supervision and regulation of financial and related institutions and activities.

"It shall be the national bank for banks and the government's bank," Mrs Lerata said.

Adding: "In carrying out its responsibilities, the CBL shall act independently and without undue influence, fear, favour or prejudice.

"The central bank shall have a board of directors which shall be responsible for the policy and general administration of the affairs and business of the bank.

"The governor shall be the chief executive of the bank, the driver and overseer of the execution of the functions stipulated under scope and powers of the bank.

"Both the governor and the two deputy governors shall be appointed by the King on the advice of the Council of State following recommendation of Parliament.

"Both shall serve a term of five years' renewable once for a further term not exceeding three years upon good performance."

# Business

## M454 million Polihali housing project kick-starts

NTSAU LEKHETHO  
editor@maserumetro.com

MASERU – A Polihali mega housing project worth an estimated M454 million resumed on January 18 to build a workers' village and a visitors' lodge amongst others.

The construction follows an award tender to the Polihali Village Joint Venture in December 2021 by the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA).

The Polihali Village JV comprises the joint venture between Lesotho-based LSP Construction and the South African construction firm, WBHO.

The two companies were joint venture partners on the civil works and bulk utilities in Polihali and Katse which were completed towards the end of 2021.

LHDA Phase II Divisional Manager, Ntsoeli Maiketso said the permanent housing would become a Phase II legacy estate.

He said energy efficiency, sustainability and sensitivity to the rural landscape underpinned its design.

The 96 units will include single quarters and one, two and

...the Polihali Village JV comprises the joint venture between Lesotho-based LSP Construction and the South African construction firm, WBHO

three-bedroom houses which will accommodate the Polihali Dam and Polihali Transfer Tunnel consultants during the construction of the Phase II main works, and LHDA staff during and post construction.

Otherwise, the proposed four star visitors' lodge to be constructed under this contract will be located on a vantage point overlooking the future dam and reservoir, to maximise views of the Polihali Dam which will be a major tourist attraction in the area.

The building composition and layout will be influenced by the nature of the terrain and site orientation.

The facilities developed around the Katse Dam and the Mohale Dam under similar contracts for Phase I of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) are still being used today and have contributed to the growth of the country's tourism industry.

Other infrastructure to be constructed under the Polihali Village construction contract includes a recreational facility and a temporary



The Polihali Dam

five-classroom school.

The Phase II housing construction contracts have been designed to enable local participation, especially of small and medium-sized contractors in keeping with the terms of Article 10 of the Phase II Agreement.

They have been divided into four works packages: the construction of the Polihali Village, the construction of the Polihali Commercial Centre, the construction of the Polihali Operations Centre and the Katse More/Village upgrades contract awarded to Unik Construction in December 2021.

Procurement processes for the remaining two contracts are at an

advanced stage.

Polihali Infrastructure Consultants comprising the South African-based Mott MacDonald PDNA (Pty) Ltd and Khatleli Tomane Moteane Architects (Pty) Ltd of Lesotho was awarded the contract for the planning, design and construction supervision of the Project housing and associated infrastructure in 2015.

Phase II of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project builds on the successful completion of Phase I in 2003.

The LHWP delivers water to the Gauteng region of South Africa and utilises the water delivery system to generate hydroelectricity for Lesotho. Phase II will increase the current water supply rate of 780 million cubic metres per annum incrementally to approximately 1270 million cubic metres per annum.

The increased water flow will simultaneously increase the energy generated by the 'Muela hydropower plant, a further step in the process of securing an independent power supply to meet Lesotho's domestic needs. The hydropower further feasibility studies have confirmed that conventional hydropower is the preferred option for Phase II.

Three potential sites were identified: two on the Senqu River and a third site at Oxbow on the Malibatšō River.

The Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) is a multi-phased, multi-billion maloti/rand project between the governments of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Republic

of South Africa.

It comprises water transfer and hydropower generation components with associated ancillary developments.

The water transfer component entails the construction of dams and tunnels in Lesotho, enhancing the use of water from the Senqu (Orange) River and its tributaries by storing, regulating, diverting and controlling the flow to effect the delivery of specified quantities of water to South Africa, and utilising the delivery system to generate hydro-electric power in Lesotho.

The major works of Phase I included the construction of the Katse Dam, the transfer and delivery tunnels, Matsoku Weir, 'Muela Hydropower Plant and the Mohale Dam.

The Phase II water transfer component comprises a dam in Polihali and a gravity tunnel that will connect the reservoir in Polihali with the Katse reservoir.

The further feasibility studies for the hydropower component of Phase II have concluded that conventional hydropower is the more feasible option to meet Lesotho's energy needs.

Three potential sites were identified: two on the Senqu River and a third site at Oxbow on the Malibatšō River. The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) is the implementing and management authority of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project, on behalf of the government of Lesotho.

# CAREER OPPORTUNITY

## Lesotho Men National Teams Head Coach

The Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) is desirous of qualifying to the 2023 Confederation of African Football (CAF) Cup of Nations as well as qualifying for the finals of the COSAFA Cup in 2022. In order to achieve this desire, LeFA is looking to engage a seasoned football coach to train the Lesotho Men National Teams. Interested Coaches should be in possession of a minimum of a CAF A License Coaching qualification or equivalent and should have coached at a National Team level or in the highest elite league and should also have coached at the Continental Inter-club competitions.

### FOOTBALL COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conducting research and analyzing previous games to develop game plans, tactics, techniques, formations, and strategies;
- Preparing the Senior Men National Team for its matches;
- Naming the Senior Men National Team during matches;
- providing technical support to the Lesotho Junior National Teams;
- Organizing and scheduling scouting exercises for potential national team players;
- Determining individual player abilities, strengths, and weaknesses, and factoring these into the gameplay and strategy sessions;
- Organizing team building sessions and activities off the field;
- Fostering good sportsmanship in all team players, resolving disputes, and addressing bad behavior in a timely manner.

### FOOTBALL COACH REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum of a CAF A License Coach Certificate or equivalent;
- Minimum of 7 year coaching at an elite level;
- Having coached in a Continental competition either at a National Team or Club;
- Passion for football and in-depth knowledge of the game;
- Strong management, organizational, motivational, and strategizing skills;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- Disciplined self-starter with a positive attitude.

Interested applicants should submit their application letters and curriculum vitae as well as references to: The Secretary General, Lesotho Football Association at the following email addresses – [ntatemohapi@lefa.co.ls](mailto:ntatemohapi@lefa.co.ls) or [ntatemohapi@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ntatemohapi@yahoo.co.uk)

Applications should be sent on or before Monday 31st January 2022. The Lesotho Football Association will only contact short listed candidates.

### NOTICE OF LOST CONSTITUTION

Notice is hereby given that we intended applying for a certified copy of a registered constitution **No.83/24**, registered on the **19th January 1995** in favor of the Sisters of the Holy names of Jesus and Mary.

All persons having objections to the issue of the said copy requested or find it, may contact Sisters of the Holy names or sent it to the Registra General Law office in Maseru within 21 days from the publication of this notice.

**The Law Office**  
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Maseru 100

**Mabathoana Administration**  
P.O. Box 247  
Maseru 100

# Matlanyane appointed director of AERC

- She has served as a member of the AERC Programmes Committee from 2008 to 2014
- She was also the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the CBL

**METRO REPORTERS**

**MASERU** – Dr Retšelisitsoe Matlanyane, the former Governor of the Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL) has been appointed as the Director at Large on the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) board.

Her appointment, which was effective from December 15, follows her association with the AERC spanning over two decades in various capacities.

Dr Matlanyane has served as a member of the AERC Programme Committee from 2008 to 2014 and was the Chairperson of the programmes committee from 2010 to 2014, having taken over from the late Professor Benno Ndulu.

In her capacity as the Chairperson of the programmes committee, she also served as an ex-officio member of the AERC Board. She is an AERC Alumnus of the collaborative training programmes.

As the former Governor of the CBL, Dr Matlanyane was also the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the institution, a position she held from 2012 to 2021 December 31.

She was the first female Governor in the history of the bank since joining the institution in April 2006 as the Second Deputy Governor to oversee the research, financial markets, and operations departments.

She was promoted to the position of the First Deputy Governor in April 2007 and



The former Governor of the CBL, Dr Retšelisitsoe Matlanyane

later as the Acting Governor, a position she held until her appointment as the substantive Governor in 2012.

She is an accomplished economist and seasoned policy maker with vast experience in finance.

Prior to her illustrious career at the

CBL, Dr Matlanyane was a lecturer at the economics department of the National University of Lesotho (NUL).

She previously served at various universities and regional and international institutions in different capacities, including as board member and Vice Chairperson of

the board of the Lesotho Revenue Authority (LRA), Chairperson of the African Rural and Agricultural Credit Association, Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute (MEFMI) and a member of the Steering Committees of AFRITAC (Technical Assistance Centre) South of the IMF and Africa Training Institute (ATI).

She has also served as an economist in the African Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

She continues to serve various local and international professional institutions in varying capacities, including as a representative of the SADC Central Bank Governors in the Financial Stability Board Consultative Group for Sub-Saharan Africa and a board member of MEFMI.

In addition, she has, and continues to lead the financial sector reforms, including modernisation of payment systems, legislative changes that enable development of the financial system, promotion of financial inclusion, modernisation and strengthening of governance structures of financial institutions and advocacy for access to finance, especially for women.

Dr Matlanyane holds a PhD in Economics with specialisation in Macro-Econometric and Economy Wide Modelling from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, a Master's in Economics from the University of Botswana and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from the NUL.

She was named among the Inaugural List of the 100 Most Influential African Women in 2019 by the Avance Media.

Still baking & delivering your essential

BLUE RIBBON

during lockdown.



CLASSIC WHITE BREAD  
700 g





CLASSIC BROWN BREAD  
700 g



# Comments & Letters

## We are going to starve

The Editor,

The heavy rains that cover the whole country pain us. They have seriously damaged and destroyed crops while disrupting field farm work.

We love the rain but too much of it destroys our crops and other properties. Combined with the loss of soil fertility, it will end in poor harvest for all of us. Mostly, our fields throughout the country are waterlogged while in many places the plants are submerged in pools of water.

It has depleted nutrients due to residual moisture.

Most farmers have not been able to weed and most crops are already turning yellow. As the weeds are at the flowering stage, the use of post-emergence herbicides will not be effective and the only alternative is manual weeding, which is also challenged by the crops that are lodging.

I wish it did not rain during the peak planting season when ploughing is serious business for the farmers.

Caroline Thakanyane  
Semonkong, Maseru

## Xenophobic attacks in SA are uncalled for

The Editor,

South Africa has a history of violence against foreigners. Often, the country makes the headlines for violent attacks against immigrants and the xenophobic attacks have now reached a new level with the reaction of a group calling itself 'Put South Africa First'. The movement, which first appeared on social media, is seen as a cause for alarm by human rights defenders and foreigners. They demand undocumented immigrants or those involved in criminal activities to leave South Africa. But without presenting any evidence, the movement alleges that foreign nationals are mainly responsible for crimes ranging from robbery, sex slavery, kidnapping and human trafficking to selling drugs.

Some people suggest that solving South Africa's unemployment, crime and social problems must include repatriating the foreigners. It is not only the foreigners but the South Africans too who are feeling the pinch of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has destroyed thousands of jobs in both the formal and informal sectors. South Africa is a magnet for economic migrants searching for better jobs, but nobody should be attacked because they are a foreigner.

Manki Manki  
Thabaneng, Mafeteng

## Climate change is a major health threat

The Editor,

The severity of climate change risks has affected everyone so much that public health and safety systems need to change in order to adapt to the changing threats as well as factors of an individual's behavior, age, gender and economic status.

These impacts are also based on where a person lives, how sensitive they are to health threats, how much they are exposed to climate change impacts and how well they and their community are able to adapt to the change.

Indeed, climate change poses significant threats to health all over the world. Even in wealthy nations, certain populations such as children, pregnant women, older people and those with low incomes face similar risks we also face here in Lesotho.

Sentle Mabokoane  
Khanyane, Leribe

**Speak OUT!** Your opinions matter. This page is dedicated to those who wish to express their views.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

### Are water project legacies a white elephant?

In Lesotho, we have not hosted any major sports tournament like the FIFA World Cup or the Olympic Games but the water projects have certainly left a lasting legacy in our beautiful Mountain Kingdom.

While stadiums built for these tournaments have sucked up taxpayers' money, they often end up as white elephants through lack of use after the games.

This week, Lesotho received another shot in the arm with the construction of the M454 million Polihali mega housing and lodge project, which will add to the Katse and Mohale multimillion maloti properties that have shaped our landscape.

But the big question is: Are the Lesotho water project legacies a white elephant like the World Cup and Olympics infrastructure built elsewhere around the world?

If you visited the Katse and Mohale dams, you would realise that the housing and other facilities were not just consigned to house the water project workers but were designed to be used beyond the completion of the projects.

As a country what are we doing to efficiently utilise and profit from the use of these facilities? Well, there are efforts to keep the lodges open but is the business good enough? How many Basotho with the money to spend have visited these water resorts?

Concerted effort is needed to gain maximum benefit out of these properties and one way would be domestic tourism which could see a lot of traffic headed up the mountains.

While government works hard to boost growth, it remains an individual's choice to support the local economy by first touring the country before going on holiday abroad.

The water project legacies need a dedicated workforce to coordinate and track performance of delivery beyond the construction of the dams. We do not only need a report on how the Polihali infrastructure will be used beyond completion but we need to know by how much the investment will contribute each year to our coffers.

There was never transparency of the property on the Thaba Chitja Island in Mohale and there was so much reluctance with its handover that it finally burned down; yet there were Basotho investors who were prepared to risk their hard earned money in its undertaking.

With the Polihali building infrastructure, we do not need a repeat of the Thaba Chitja ill-defined tender. In fact, we need a coherent plan to achieve value out of the houses and the lodge.

Local Basotho need to get long-term jobs through tourism beyond Polihali. Profit generating projects that promote our culture and heritage should be set up and run with a focus around the Polihali properties. We need mechanisms to uplift our economy through the water project legacies and adequately make a living out of them.

Already, we know we have a scarcity of appropriately skilled people in the dams' host communities and we must move fast to train them to open tourism based businesses leading up to the end of the Polihali project.

There is no more room for failure given the hard economic conditions of joblessness. A proper profiling of the communities living here and potential investors in the Polihali infrastructure should begin now to avoid future delays. We must move away from the short-term prospects of employment generation while the water projects last but we should measure the value of the projects to perpetuity.

## There's gold buried in the Zondo Commission reports: ...let's not only mine the silver and tinsel

One of the dangers of having too much information made available to you as a citizen is that accountability, ironically enough, can be compromised if that information is not properly mined, synthesised skilfully and analysed carefully – coupled with State Capture fatigue and a sheer overwhelmedness to study the information diligently and not hastily.

Part one of the State Capture Report is an excellent example of this danger. It is more than 800 pages long and yet is but the first of three instalments in the making of the presentation of Justice Raymond Zondo's final findings. There are at least three pitfalls to be avoided that are worth examining. The first pitfall is: focusing insufficiently on institutions.

At the heart of State Capture lies the destruction of our institutions. These, most obviously, included the state-owned entities. Equally disturbing, of course, is the destruction of state institutions that were supposed to help protect us against State Capture. We have yet, by way of just one example, to reckon fully with the political role of the State Security Agency.

Volume one of part one of the State Capture Report is an excellent example of how the agency was in cahoots with the likes of former South African Airways board chairperson Dudu Myeni. She never acted alone. She was able to hollow out SAA only because other institutions of the state were part of the set-up that allowed the public aviation sector to be fleeced.

What does this mean? It would be a mistake to underemphasise the importance of repairing institutions and systems that had been intentionally broken. An important analytical lens to use when mining the State Capture Report is to engage in close analysis of institutions and systems. This, so far, has been missing from the initial reportage. What were the design faults that allowed SAA to be so porous? What were the design faults that allowed SOEs to misdirect public money to The New Age? These kinds of systems-focused questions must be centred and focused on very closely in the weeks and months ahead.

The second pitfall is that of implicated parties going to the courts in an attempt to delay any further scrutiny from the media and the public.

Embedded deeply in our jurisprudence is the principle of innocent until proven guilty. This phrase is often used by the guilty and innocent alike. "Let's wait for the courts to pronounce on this," it goes.

It is deeply fallacious to think of the courts as the only forums where accountability can be meted out. Our democracy has given no more power to courts and judges than it has to ordinary citizens and voters, so we carry an equal and parallel duty to mete out critical questions about the behaviours of certain individuals and institutions, and demand answers and get on with the work of assessing those answers against the available evidence. This is especially critical when

those institutions and individuals are likeable or are seen as, on the surface of it, righteous and well meaning.

The implication of Nedbank, for instance, in the report as a potential enabler of corruption raised a lot of eyebrows, but those eyebrows soon gave way to muted questions when the bank announced it did no wrong, and will cooperate with any further investigations.

The media and public, like the investigative authorities, should be bombarding Nedbank with questions relating to the mentioned Acsa transaction, we don't need to wait for the courts to do so.

The third pitfall to be avoided is to wrongly focus on minor characters who happen to be of interest to the public but who are not in the public interest.

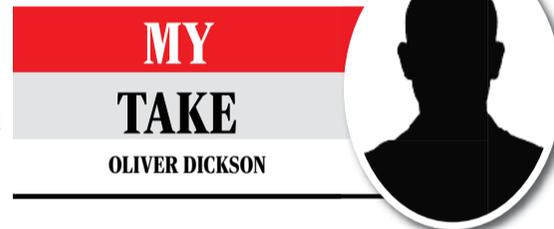
The distinction is important and will be explained shortly. If someone is a legitimate target of public accountability, then of course they should be named and shamed. Myeni was not a minor character. She was a major actor in the State Capture game.

It is appropriate that she gets the kind of attention and scrutiny that we see playing out in the public discussion on the report so far. Focusing on her should not be at the expense of simultaneously focusing on institutional questions and systems analysis. We can do both. We must do both.

That said, we have an obsession as South Africans, which the media sometimes feeds, of following the lives of public figures with morbid fascination. That is why tabloid journalism does so well in South Africa. It is also why "mainstream" media have collapsed at times into tabloidisation. There was a fixation in the past, for example, on all the fancy cars Edwin Sodi had in his garage and his relationship with his socialite girlfriend, or the fascination with the obnoxiousness with which Markus Jooste lived his high-rolling life – this often came at the expense of understanding how Jooste was able to bamboozle a highly educated, two-tier board into being derelict in their fiduciary duty, for instance, or how Sodi and Blackhead Consulting were able to viciously manipulate the Public Finance Management Act.

With parts two and three of the report forthcoming, as media houses compete with each other for mindshare, it is to be hoped that none of them will let the crooks who are not famous get away with criminality by focusing on non-core issues or minor characters who are not central to the grand-scale looting we have witnessed in South Africa. We need to make unknown names famous if they deserve to become known villains.

The Zondo Commission did excellent work. It is up to us to use the report ethically in order to do justice to that work. The starting point is to mine the report with a view to understanding the deeper truths in it rather than to use it to create a quick set of infographics that can make you trend quickly on social media. DM



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# Metro



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# Lesotho is cash-strapped



- LDF troops in Mozambique could be withdrawn
- The mission was supposed to end in January but has been extended by 6 months



The Minister of Finance, Thabo Sophonea

**NTSAU LEKHETHO**  
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**MASERU** – The Minister of Finance, Thabo Sophonea says Lesotho troops serving against insurgency in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique could be withdrawn because the state is cash-strapped and cannot afford to pay their incentives any further following the decision to extend the military

operations in that war-torn country. The mission was supposed to end in January this year but has since been extended by another six months by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit held in Malawi last week. Lesotho is among the SADC countries whose military personnel have been deployed to fight terrorism in Mozambique.

Insurgents linked to the Islamic State have launched several offensives since October 2017 in Cabo Delgado, a coastal province rich in natural gas reserves and host to an estimated \$US60 billion worth of international investment in gas projects. “The government is operating on a very tight budget,” Mr Sophonea told Radio Lesotho on Monday.

“The Mozambique crisis was not budgeted for but our support to the country is a priority and urgent.” He said supplies such as transport, food, military clothing, and medication to Lesotho troops in the trouble-torn Cabo Delgado region were expensive and were not sustainable for a further six-month period. With the forthcoming Lesotho national elections, Mr Sophonea said the aircraft that was used for the mission in Mozambique could also be withdrawn to assist ferry ballot papers and personnel at home. During the SADC Summit held in Malawi last week, he said Lesotho had expressed its budget and resource constraints but maintained that its support to Mozambique was unwavering. “We assured the summit that we were fully behind Mozambique despite our cash needs,” Mr Sophonea said. “We didn’t want to be seen to be withdrawing from a crisis that could also befall us in the future.” He said the summit had also agreed to downscale the military operations from level six of direct combat to the operational level five, where social workers, police and prison warders would then be engaged from the respective SADC member states to deal with transition

and help residents most affected by the fighting. “The six month period will be divided by two, in which the first three months will entail the usual military operations and the next three months will involve humanitarian assistance,” Mr Sophonea said. “The police will patrol the streets, the social workers will conduct counselling sessions and prison warders will deal with rehabilitation.” Almost 800 000 people have been displaced by the ongoing insurgency in Cabo Delgado and Mr Sophonea said the SADC summit had expressed its condolences to the countries and families of the troops that died in Mozambique. So far, of the 125 members of the Lesotho Defence Force, only Private Moalosi Khoale has died from natural causes and another soldier was injured while serving in that southern African country. In many parts of Cabo Delgado, access to essential services such as healthcare and schooling is difficult and Mr Sophonea said torrential rains were also hindering the movement of the troops. Apart from military personnel, he said SADC member countries were offering humanitarian aid from food to healthcare in order to address some of the basic needs for the displaced

## Backing for solar-plus-storage mini grids in Lesotho

- The mini-grids will be installed by the OnePower, US-based non-profit organisation out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- The local power networks will offer clean electricity to customers for an “almost cost-reflective tariff”

A coalition of organisations has backed a plan to install 11 “solar-battery” mini grids in Lesotho which will have a combined generation capacity of 1.8MW. An announcement of the project on the website of the EU’s EDFI Electrifi organisation did not specify what battery storage capacity the mini-grids would have. The mini-grids will be installed by the OnePower, U.S.-based non-profit organisation out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and will reportedly supply power to 20 000 people and seven health centres via 7 300 new electricity connections. The panels will generate up to 3.48GWh of electricity annually, according to European finance development institution (EDFI) the Electrification Financing Initiative (Electrifi), and will generate 100 jobs during construction and six permanent roles. The local power networks will

offer clean electricity to customers for an “almost cost-reflective tariff” of LSL5/kWh (€0.28) after PowerOne received help with its business plan from EU investment body, Get Invest. EDFI Electrifi, which said it contributed LSL75 million (€4.23 million) to the project in a mixture of a loan and investment in PowerOne stock, said the mini-grids would be mounted on solar trackers designed and built by an unspecified company in Lesotho and would also feature smart metres. The EU-funded electrification body said the Renewable Energy Performance Platform (REPP) backed by the UK Government and managed by London-based financial services company, Camco Clean Energy had matched its equity and loan investment in a PowerOne project the former described as “Africa’s second largest project-financed mini-grid transaction.” PV Magazine

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# Metro HEALTH

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## Mothers say “no” to COVID vaccines

- Some mothers say there is too little track record of COVID-19 vaccines to confirm their effectiveness
- As of last week, 10 089 children had received their first jab of the Pfizer vaccine



The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare headquarters

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**MASERU** – The slow rate at which minors are taking the COVID-19 jabs underscores the parents’ reluctance to have their children vaccinated, despite the government’s assurance that they are safe and are effective to boosting the immune system.

Some mothers say there is too little track record of the COVID-19 vaccines to confirm their effectiveness, a general concern among parents of children aged between 12 and 17.

Mothers make decisions for their children’s vaccination and many are worried that there is little evidence that the vaccines are effective, hence there are

fewer numbers to clinics and other designated areas for vaccination.

While some parents have said they would wait and see if the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine really worked, others have been lining up to get their school-going children vaccinated since the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine became available for children.

As of last week, 10 089

children had received their first jab of the Pfizer vaccine, a figure the National COVID-19 Secretariat (NACOSEC) said was a good indicator to persuade more parents to vaccinate their children.

The vaccine was authorised for children late last year by the Ministry of Health after the public had complained that the population in the designated 12 to 17 age group was not receiving the essential COVID-19 jabs since its inception.

Districts which initiated the use of the Pfizer vaccine included Maseru, Leribe, Berea and Mafeteng while the rest will follow.

Parents and guardians of children in the said age group were urged to ensure that their children went to the selected health clinics for vaccination.

Manaha Molebatsi, a parent of two children aged 14 and 17, said she was doubtful about the effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines because research was not conclusive about their healing properties.

“Shots to protect against diseases like measles and others have been around since the 1960s but the first COVID-19 vaccine was only created last year and so we don’t know much about it,” she said.

“I am more concerned about the vaccine’s effects on my children’s future, and I believe the

vaccines will harm them.”

Mrs Molebatsi said it was hard to differentiate between facts and misinformation, adding that she would therefore not take her children to the clinic until advised otherwise.

“The biggest concerns are the potential unknown long-term effects of the vaccine,” she noted.

Sister Malekhetho Motenalapi from the Extended Programme on Immunisation (EPI) said improving COVID-19 vaccine rates for children and young people was important to promoting their health and wellness as well as moving closer to ending the pandemic.

Although hesitancy remained high due to a number of reasons, Sister Motenalapi said the vaccination programmes in Leribe and Berea districts had run efficaciously, with promising numbers of children who received their jabs.

So far, she said there were no side effects recorded with Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, adding that they had also learned that there were some children who liked to get vaccinated even without the consent of their parents.

Sister Motenalapi, however made it clear that if serious side effects occurred, they would happen as soon as the immune system was triggered - not later than two months of receiving the shot.

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pollution, and are responsible for skin damage and skin aging. Antioxidants such as those found in berries can destroy these free radicals and protect cells from further damage and premature skin aging. Other

foods that are good sources of antioxidants include artichokes, beans (such as black, red, and pinto), prunes, and pecans according to a study in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.



The new COVID-19 drug, Baricitinib

# WHO approves new COVID-19 drugs

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**MASERU** - The World Health Organisation (WHO), a specialised agency of the United Nations (UN) responsible for international public health has recommended two new drugs for COVID-19, providing yet more options for treating the disease.

WHO says the extent to which these medicines will save lives depends on how widely available and affordable they will be.

The first drug, Baricitinib, is strongly recommended for patients with severe or critical COVID-19. It is part of a class of drugs called Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors that suppress the overstimulation of the immune system.

WHO recommends that it is given with Corticosteroids.

Otherwise, Baricitinib is an oral drug, used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. It provides an alternative to other arthritis drugs called Interleukin-6 receptor blockers, recommended by WHO in July 2021.

The global health body has also conditionally recommended the use of a monoclonal antibody drug, Sotrovimab, for treating mild or moderate COVID-19 in patients who are at high risk of hospitalisation.

This includes patients who are older, immunocompromised, having underlying conditions like diabetes, hypertension and obesity as well as those who are unvaccinated.

WHO says Sotrovimab is an alternative to Casirivimab-Imdevimab, a monoclonal antibody cocktail recommended in September 2021.

It says studies are on-going on the effectiveness of monoclonal antibodies against Omicron but early laboratory studies showed that Sotrovimab retains its activity.

WHO said the panel of experts was developing guidelines for two more other drugs for severe and critical COVID-19, including Ruxolitinib and Tofacitinib.

However, WHO has made a conditional recommendation against their use given their uncertain effects.

It said the latest recommendations formed the eighth update of WHO's living guidelines on therapeutics and COVID-19 based on evidence from seven trials involving over 4 000 patients with non-severe, severe and critical COVID-19.

WHO is in discussions with manufacturers to secure global supply capacity and equitable and sustainable access to the newly recommended therapeutics.

The Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) Therapeutics pillar has been engaging with pharmaceutical companies to seek comprehensive access plans for low-and middle-income countries, so that these treatments can be rapidly deployed everywhere, not just in rich countries.

The ACT-A is also looking to expand licensing scope to make the products more affordable.

The two newly recommended drugs - Baricitinib and Sotrovimab - have been invited for WHO pre-qualification, which assesses the quality, efficacy and safety of priority health products in order to increase access in lower income countries like Lesotho.

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# LRCS warns of waterborne diseases

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**MASERU** – The Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS), a local voluntary and humanitarian organisation says the current prevailing heavy rains have affected communities and health centres so much so that there is a possibility of an outbreak of locusts, waterborne diseases as well as drowning incidents. The LRCS said the heavy rains that the country had been experiencing since November 2021 resulted in widespread damage with the worst affected sectors being water, sanitation and health among others.

In its statement issued this week, the voluntary outfit said most protected springs had been destroyed by the heavy rains while the unprotected springs had been seriously contaminated.

The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) volunteer at the LRCS, Mookho Mafereka, said blockages and damage to water supply equipment were a major source of contamination to the drinking water supply.

Apart from destroying property, Ms Mafereka said floods contaminated

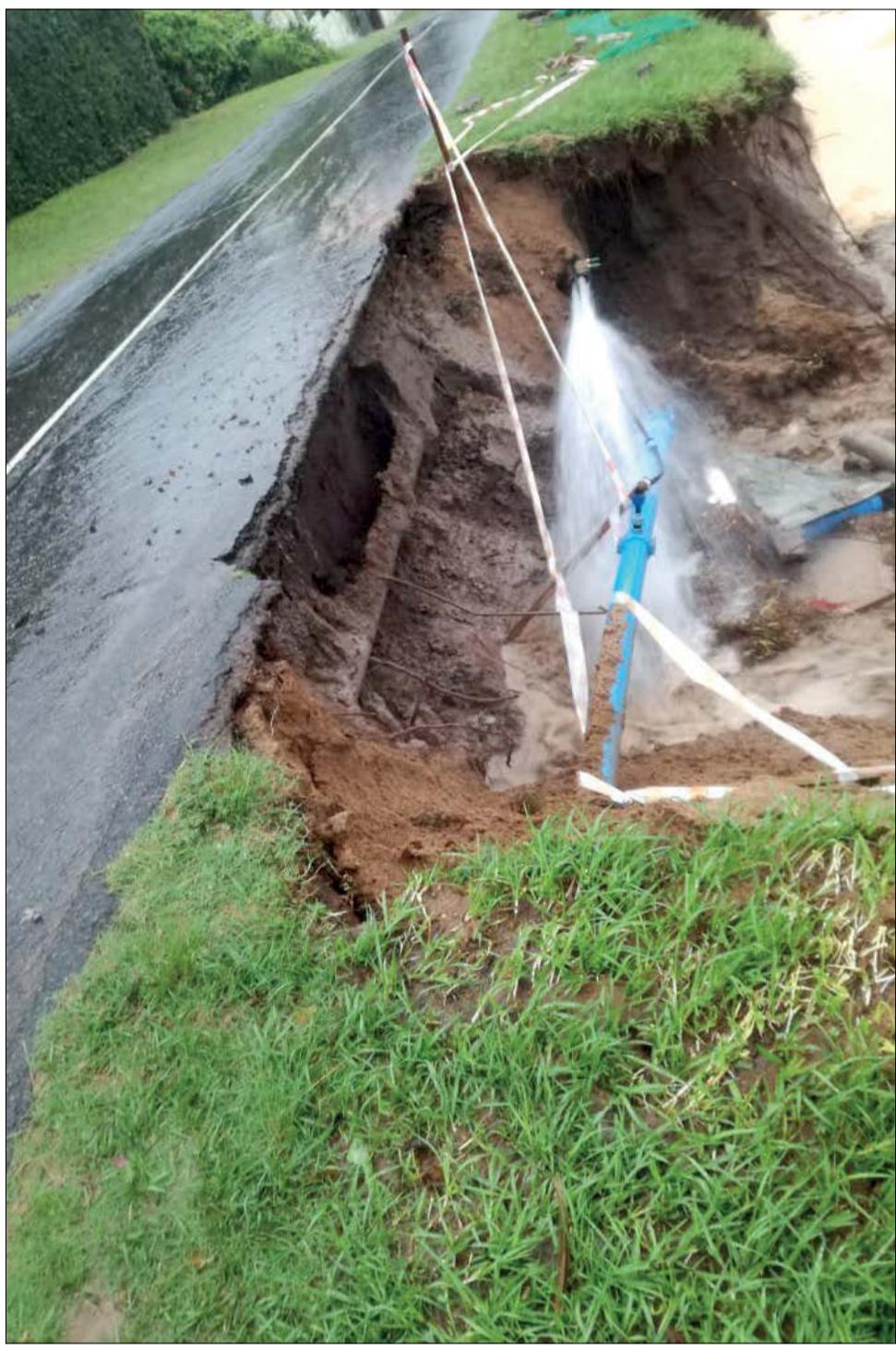
drinking water and spread diseases. “At most local health centres, due to the blocked pipes, there is a possibility that the clinics are not getting enough clean water to run efficiently,” she also said.

Adequate hygiene is essential and so is the provision of healthcare facilities, which serve to prevent infections and the spread of disease, protect staff and patients, and uphold the dignity of vulnerable populations including pregnant women and the disabled people.

Ms Mafereka said the consequences of poor hygiene in healthcare facilities were numerous, adding that the LRCS was concerned that the latrines in the communities, schools and health centres were getting destroyed by the heavy rainfall.

The LRCS said most villages had no proper toilets and were without protected water systems with the possibility of outbreaks of waterborne diseases.

It therefore showed that a rapid assessment would be launched soon to establish the magnitude of the destruction throughout the country.



Water systems destroyed by heavy rain

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# The world in 10 minutes

## CHILE

### Police stung by bees as beekeepers protest in Chile

Four beekeepers have been detained in Chile following a protest calling for government support for their industry.

The beekeepers held a demonstration outside the presidential palace in the capital, Santiago.

Seven police officers were stung as they tried to remove beehives placed by the protesters to block a main thoroughfare.

A prolonged drought has been ravaging beekeeping in Chile, affecting bees' food sources such as flowers and crops.

To highlight their cause, the beekeepers set up some 60 hives containing around 10,000 bees in front of the palace and prevented the police from dispersing the demonstration.



## NIGERIA

### Hawker praised for handing money to prisoners

A Nigerian hawker has been praised for giving money to prison inmates who were stuck in traffic in a transit van in Lagos.

"I have suffered... if I see people suffering I always feel for them. Even when I cannot take good care of myself," Ekuma Jeremiah told Punch newspaper.

A clip of him giving money to the prisoners, and talking about why he wanted to give them money, has been viewed more than 100,000 times.

One commenter says: "You've sown a seed of love and compassion".



## CHINA

### China's Xi Jinping defends 'common prosperity' crackdowns

Chinese president Xi Jinping has made a rare defence on the world stage of his "common prosperity" policy, which has seen major crackdowns on businesses.

His comments came during the World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual meeting of government and corporate leaders.

China says the policy is aimed at narrowing the widening wealth gap, which could threaten the Communist Party's rule if left unaddressed.

Technology, education and entertainment firms have been hit by the crackdowns.

"The common prosperity we desire is not egalitarianism," Mr Xi told delegates.



## UNITED KINGDOM

### Scotch whisky on the table in trade talks with India

A bottle of Scotch whisky arriving in the port of Mumbai faces a colossal 150% import tariff, yet it hasn't stopped Indians from being enthusiastic drinkers of a dram.

India is the world's biggest market for whisky, most of it termed "Indian-made foreign liquor". The big brands sound more Speyside than sub-continental: McDowell's, Royal Stag, Bagpiper, Peter Scot.

Domestic distillers have lobbied fiercely and successfully to limit Scotch imports. If the bottle is sold in Mumbai or elsewhere in the state of Maharashtra, it used to carry a further 300% tariff, though that was recently halved.

## NIGERIA

### Buhari unveils 'rice pyramids' to showcase farming

Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari has unveiled what one of his media aides has dubbed the "world's largest rice pyramids" - made with one million bags of rice - in the capital, Abuja.

The temporary "pyramids" were aimed at showcasing the government's efforts to boost rice production, and to make Nigeria - Africa's most populous state - self-sufficient in food.

It was one of the main electoral pledges that Mr Buhari made when he took office in 2015.

Mr Buhari's media aide Bashir Ahmed tweeted that the initiative has led to a sharp reduction of Nigeria's annual rice import bill - from \$1.5bn in 2015 to \$18.5ml.

The bags of rice for the pyramids were collected from farmers across Nigeria, whose efforts to increase production received financial backing from the central bank in a scheme known as the Anchor Borrowers' Programme.



## UKRAINE

### EU 'closest to war' in decades over Russia-Ukraine crisis

"Europe is now closer to war than it has been since the break-up of former Yugoslavia."

Stark words of warning from the senior EU diplomat speaking off the record about current tensions with Moscow, over its huge military build-up on the border with Ukraine.

The mood in Brussels is jumpy. There's a real fear that Europe could be spiralling towards its worst security crisis in decades.

But angst isn't wholly focused on the prospect of a long, drawn-out ground war with Russia over Ukraine.

Few here believe Moscow has the military might, never mind the money, or popular support back home for that.

True: the EU warns the Kremlin of "extreme consequences" should it take military action in neighbouring Ukraine. Germany's new Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock was in Kyiv and Moscow saying just that recently.



# Metro **Motoring**

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## Be Car-Smart

### Apply alcohol on wipers

A simple way to prevent the wipers from smudging your windshield is to apply rubbing alcohol. But first, you have to clean the wipers with hot and soapy water to remove dust or dirt. Afterward, drip the alcohol on a clean rag or cotton ball and wipe the blade edges.

We typically give little thought to our vehicle's windshield wipers until we actually need them and they don't properly work. I've had a few experiences where I was essentially driving blind through the torrential rain of thunderstorm because my wiper blades were shot and simply smeared the sheets of water across my windshield. Man, those were

some scary drives. Even when I've had brand spanking new blades, I've experienced a few drives where it seemed like no matter what I did, my windshield was a blurry mess.

If your wipers smear water in both directions, you may have one of the following problems: worn blades, a dirty windshield and/or wiper blade or sub-par windshield wiper fluid. Try using new wiper fluid and cleaning the windshield and wiper blades before you replace the blades.

Water smearing in only one direction is common in cold weather, so there's not much you can do about that. If you notice the smearing in one direction even when it's not cold,

it means your wiper blades are either, 1) old and hard or 2) the wrong size. Either way, you'll need to buy new wiper blades. Water Beads That Won't Wipe Away Boy, is this annoying. Water beads are actually supposed to be easy to wipe away.

In fact, many of the windshield treatments that help keep your windshield clear cause water to bead and run off. But in certain conditions, beads won't wipe or run off your windshield. Instead they'll remain stuck dancing hypnotically on the glass, obscuring your vision.

This problem usually occurs in areas with high pollution. The residue and grime that builds up on your windshield causes water beads to stick. Before you treat your windshield with a product that repels water, give it a thorough cleaning to remove any residue that may have built up. If using a strong glass cleaner doesn't do the trick, you might consider using a wax remover on your windshield.

Watch out for the paint, though!

#### Chattering

The sound of your wipers chattering away on your windshield isn't just grating, it also means the water isn't getting wiped away efficiently; you'll often see streak marks in the path of a chattering blade. There are a few possible causes of this problem. It's often the result of a build-up of wax, oil, or grease which prevents the blade from cleanly wiping the water away. Give your windshield a nice, thorough scrubbing. Give the blades a good cleaning too, for good measure.

**Lift your wiper blades from the windshield glass.** Apply a small amount of washer fluid to one of your clean rags and wipe the edge of your wiper blade. You can also use hot, soapy water to wipe down the edge of the blade. Also know, how do you soften hard windshield wipers? Dip a cloth into petroleum jelly and wipe it along the entire length of the rubber of each blade, making certain that

the jelly has a chance to soak into the rubber. Do not wipe off the blades; allow the petroleum jelly to air dry for at least 10 minutes. Lower the wiper arms back onto the wind shield.

#### Likewise, how do you clean windshield wiper blades with vinegar?

If your windshield wipers leave streaks on the glass, it's time to clean the blades. Just take a cleaning rag soaked in vinegar and wipe the blades down. You don't have to be worried about using too much vinegar. Then turn the wipers on to distribute any excess vinegar.

#### Is rubbing alcohol safe for car windows?

Additionally, alcohol is a completely safe ingredient to use even on tinted windows. Fortunately, a simple alcohol solution is unlikely to harm any of the parts of your car windows. To make it, you can mix equal parts of rubbing alcohol and distilled water in your spray-bottle.

## Volkswagen - Audi account for one in every four vehicles sold in SA in 2021



Despite limited Caddy supply last year, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles still sold 4 906.

"Our sales performance last year was ably supported by our strong and dedicated dealer network. More than 70% of total sales were channelled through our dealer network. I also wish to convey our sincere gratitude to our loyal customers who have ensured that Audi and Volkswagen are still South Africa's most loved passenger brands," concluded Cisek.

Eight new Audi and Volkswagen vehicles will be launched in the local market in 2022

Twenty-twenty-two will be an exciting year for the Volkswagen Passenger Car brand which will see the introduction of four new vehicles. These include the all-new Golf 8 R, high-performance Tiguan R, Taigo which is a compact SUV as well as Volkswagen's only sedan derivative, the Polo Sedan. The best-selling Polo will receive a facelift in the first quarter of the year and so will the Tiguan Allspace and the sporty T-Roc in the second half of the year.

2022 will be a monumental year for Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, which will see the launch of the best-selling new Caddy range as well as the new Amarok. The Amarok's world premiere and global media launch will both take place in South Africa later this year. The Audi brand celebrates the launch of a fully-fledged e-tron range this year.

This will include the introduction of the e-tron 55, e-tron 55 Sportback and e-tron S Sportback (performance derivative) as well as the much-anticipated e-tron GT and high performance RS e-tron GT.

The rest of the year will see the introduction of the all-new Audi RS3 Sportback and Sedan as well as the facelift to the luxury S8 Sedan.

Volkswagen Group South Africa (VWSA), which consists of Audi and Volkswagen, ended 2021 with a combined market share of 25.5%. This means one in every four vehicles sold locally was either a Volkswagen or Audi model.

To end off 2021 as South Africa's leading passenger car brand is truly an amazing achievement for VWSA. 2021 was a challenging year for our company and our industry due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the global semi-conductor chip shortages.

We are especially proud of the Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand's 20.1% market share, which is the highest of all Volkswagen markets worldwide," said Robert Cisek, VWSA Chairman and Managing Director.

In 2021, VWSA delivered 71 577 vehicles (Volkswagen Passenger Cars - 60 959, Audi - 5 712, and Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles - 4 906) to customers in the local market; an increase of 8 095 vehicles compared to 2020.

With total sales of 60 959 units in

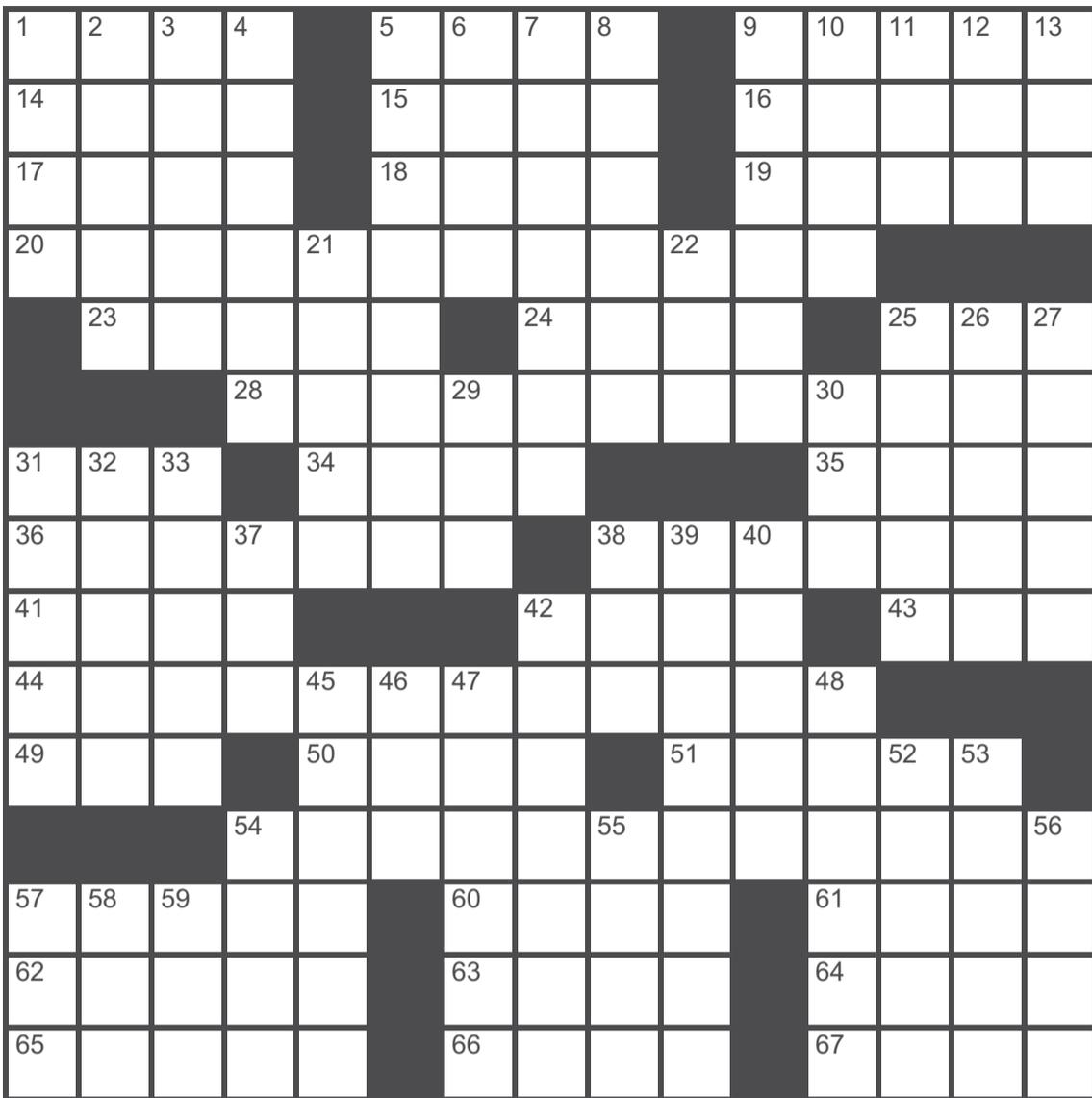
2021, the Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand sold 7 640 more vehicles when compared to 2020. The performance of Volkswagen Passenger Cars was boosted by its strong dominance in the AO segments.

The Volkswagen brand was the undisputed leader in the competitive AO Hatch, AO Sedan and AO SUV segments. The Polo Vivo retained the crown of South Africa's most popular passenger car with 21 877 units sold last year. The T-Cross ended 2021 with full-year sales of 7 516 units.

units, an improvement of 13% when compared to 2020. The Amarok was the best-selling model range with 1 770 units sold.

The local premium market faced severe challenges in 2021 due to a consumer buy-down trend; however Audi remained one of the top three premium brands in South Africa. Audi achieved 18.4% share of the premium market and recorded 5 712 sales in 2021. The brand's best-selling model range was the Audi Q3 with 900 vehicles sold last year.

## General Crosswords



- Across**
- 1. Reddish-brown gem
  - 5. "Where the heart is"
  - 9. Bell sound
  - 14. Beseech
  - 15. Black cat, to some
  - 16. Eagle's home
  - 17. Norse war god
  - 18. Cheerful tune
  - 19. Dome-shaped dessert
  - 20. Absolute governmental control
  - 23. Type of bone
  - 24. Brightly colored
  - 25. Meadow
  - 28. 85 years old
  - 31. Crumb
  - 34. Prevalent
  - 35. Choir voice
  - 36. Campaign poster word
  - 38. Chess move (past)
  - 41. Sheltered, at sea
  - 42. Identical
  - 43. Before, in verse
  - 44. Prints one at a time
  - 49. Pigpen
  - 50. Icy coating
  - 51. Microwaves
  - 54. Dispositions
  - 57. Undermines
  - 60. Saudi, e.g.
  - 61. "The Way We \_\_\_\_\_"
  - 62. Ouzo flavoring
  - 63. Kind of phone
  - 64. Radiate
  - 65. Earp of O.K. Corral
  - 66. Shade giver
- Down**
- 1. Swedish rug
  - 1. Parking place
  - 2. Passion
  - 3. Indian side
  - 4. Go-getter
  - 5. New age medicine
  - 6. Cut
  - 7. Mixture
  - 8. Main course
  - 9. Beach shelter
  - 10. Ponce de \_\_\_\_\_
  - 11. Chair part
  - 12. Pen point
  - 13. "Fancy that!"
  - 21. Ill-gotten gains
  - 22. Charge carrier
  - 25. De Gaulle's birthplace
  - 26. Gourmand

## Sudoku Puzzle

	8				7	9	3	
	1		9	8	5			
	6			7			1	
	4		7	2		3	6	
3	5		8			1	7	
		7	3		1		8	
1			4	6	7	8		9
5	9			3			2	
	7		5			6	3	1

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each 3x3 square contain all the from 1-9

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurr: target time, ten minutes.

## Last Week's Solution

9	5	7	4	1	2	8	3	6
6	4	3	8	5	7	1	9	2
8	2	1	9	6	3	7	4	5
3	8	2	6	7	4	5	1	9
1	9	5	3	2	8	4	6	7
7	6	4	1	9	5	3	2	8
2	3	9	7	8	1	6	5	4
5	1	8	2	4	6	9	7	3
4	7	6	5	3	9	2	8	1

## Last Week's Solution

1	A	2	L	3	B	4	S		5	D	6	E	7	B	8	T		9	A	10	I	11	S	12	L	13	E		
14	S	O	O	T					15	I	C	A	O					16	P	A	P	A	W						
17	A	U	T	O					18	S	H	U	T					19	I	M	A	G	E						
20	P	I	C	K					21	U	P	T	H	E				22	T	A	B								
		23	S	H	E	L	L							24	A	M	I	R			25	U	26	S	27	A			
									28	S	T	A	T	U	S	S	Y			30	M	B	O	L					
31	B	32	U	33	S									34	R	Y	A	S							35	P	O	L	L
36	U	N	C	L	A	S	P							38	F	O	R	G	A	V	E								
41	G	L	E	E										42	T	A	R	O						43	T	E	N		
44	L	A	N	D					45	I	46	N	47	G	S	T	A	G			48	E							
49	E	Y	E						50	T	O	L	U						51	N	E	V		52	E	53	R		
									54	S	A	V	I	N	G	G	R	A	C	E	S							56	
57	C	58	A	59	B	A	L							60	D	A	R	E							61	D	O	U	P
62	A	C	A	R	I									63	E	M	I	R							64	E	L	S	E
65	M	E	D	I	C									66	R	I	M	Y							67	D	I	E	D

- 27. Battery part
- 29. Frequently, in poetry
- 30. Kind of race
- 31. Certain exams
- 32. Kindled anew
- 33. Minuscule
- 37. General in gray
- 38. Tabby
- 39. Willing to comply
- 40. Truth\_\_\_\_\_
- 42. Villain, at times
- 45. Predetermined
- 46. Glass component
- 47. Affect
- 48. Kebob holder
- 52. Foe
- 53. Banding
- 54. Midterm, e.g.
- 55. Rattle
- 56. Tennis units
- 57. Bird call
- 58. Some
- 59. By means of

## So You Think You are Geneius

### Question (Answer next week)

I once cashed a cheque at the bank. I had spent £20.68 before I realised the bank clerk had made a mistake. He had transposed the pounds with the pence. I now had exactly 9 times the value of the original cheque. What was the original cheque's value?



## Last Week's Answer

Cabbage, cauliflower, cucumber, courgette, carrot, celeriac.



## Linare announce departure of Coach Moloï

- Both parties reached an amicable decision to part ways after Moloï was offered another job in SA
- Moloï had wished to bring glory days back at Hlotse-based outfit

### STAFF REPORTER

**MASERU** – Premier League giants, Linare are parting ways with their head coach, Teboho Moloï after he was offered another job in his home country, South Africa.

The former Orlando Pirates star midfielder had been in charge of Linare for over a year.

According to a press statement released by Tse-Tala, Moloï will lead the club for the last time when they face Bantu in the Vodacom Premier League catch up likely to be played this coming weekend.

The South African mentor who has coached SA sides such as Orlando Pirates and Chippa United before joining Linare had previously shown that his wish was to bring the glory days back at the Hlotse-based outfit.

This, after the team had gone over three decades without winning the league title.

“The management of Linare and the head coach of the club have reached an agreement to amicably terminate the contract of employment after long negotiations,” the statement said.

“The decision was amicable between the two parties after Moloï



Linare during practise

Former Linare Head Coach Teboho Moloï

was offered another job in his home country (South Africa) and this would make it difficult for him to continue with his role as the coach on the day-to-day basis.”

The statement further stated that Linare would start searching for a new coach right away.

“Expectations are that Mr Moloï

will lead the club for the last time in the match against Bantu if the league body re-fixtures them for this coming Saturday,” the club also said.

“Coach Moloï leaves the club with a heavy heart based on the progress made since he took over the reins and in the same way,

Linare are saddened to part ways with the coach looking at what he brought to the club and we wish him well in his future endeavours.

“The club begins the hunt for the new coach right away and an announcement will be made once the process has been completed,” the statement concluded.

Linare’s Vodacom Premier League match against Bantu FC that was scheduled for this past Sunday at LCS Football Ground was cancelled due to heavy rains and unplayable pitch. The two clubs will now wait for the Premier League Management Committee (PLMC) to re-schedule their meeting.

## Mafoso joins Lioli after ditching Bantu

- The coach failed to agree on certain terms in a new contract with Bantu
- Thabo Tsutsulupa has taken over as Bantu’s new coach



New Lioli Technical Director, Bob Mafoso

### STAFF REPORTER

**MASERU** – Vodacom Premier League giants, Lioli have announced

the appointment of Bob Mafoso as the club’s technical director less than a fortnight after parting ways with arch rivals, Bantu.

Lioli announced last week that the CAF A Coaching License holder, Mafoso has been handed the role to head the team’s technical department

from the beginning of January.

He left his position as the Bantu head coach after failing to agree on certain terms in a new contract with the management of the Mafeteng-based outfit.

According to sources within the club, Mafoso has been earmarked to take over the reins at the club as the current technical team led by Mosholu “Shoes” Mokhothu does not meet the side’s coaching requirements.

“The management of Lioli announces the appointment of Bob Mafoso as the new technical director of the club from January 1st,” Lioli said in a statement published on Wednesday.

“Mr. Mafoso’s role will be to lead the club’s technical department.”

Mafoso led Bantu to the league title last season and his arrival is expected to boost Tse-Nala’s technical team as they work on bringing the glory days back to Teyateyaneng.

Lioli’s last league success came during the 2015/16 season.

Bantu did not waste any time finding Mafoso’s replacement and last week the club announced former Kaizer Chiefs youth coach, Thabo

Tsutsulupa as their new coach.

Tsutsulupa is not new to the Lesotho Premier League having previously coached Liphakoe.

He led the Quthing-based side to a top 8 finish for the first time since the team returned to topflight football in the 2018/19 season.

The Ladybrand-born coach is expected to take charge of his first match when A Matšo Matebele host Linare in the Vodacom Premier League catch-up match scheduled for LCS Ground on Sunday.

The Mafeteng-based outfit has had a rocky start since returning to action having lost to LDF in its last match. Bantu have also struggled to have all their players back with the likes of Bokang Sello, Lekhooa Khoete and Keamogetswe Wolff having reportedly gone AWOL.

Elsewhere in the catch-up matches scheduled for this weekend, LMPS will welcome Motebang Makhetha’s coached Kick4Life at the Ratjomose Barracks while FC Likhopo will host LDF at the LCS Ground.

LCS will also be in action when they host Swallows at the LCS Ground as the Vodacom Premier League resumes after the Christmas break.

Clubs such as Matlama, who are at the summit of the Vodacom Premier League standings, will only return to action on January 29 when the second round gets underway.



# The steadfast SA batsman, Graeme Smith

Tall, well-built and known as the 'Biff' for his ability to smash the leather off the ball, Graeme Smith was thrust into the captaincy duties of the Proteas at a very young age.

In fact he was handed the reins at 22 - which made him his country's youngest captain and tasked with restoring the faith of his countrymen after Hansie Cronje had ripped whatever was remaining with his immoral hand in the match fixing scandal.

Smith, 40, took over the reigns from Shaun Pollock after the 2003 World Cup and immediately set about rebuilding the side.

The tour of England in 2003 made Smith's name. He made consecutive double hundreds and his 259 remains the highest score by a foreigner at Lord's.

Smith finished the series with an aggregate of 714 runs at an average of 79.33, and ended up as the joint Man of the Series.

Smith's captaincy as well as his batting mirror his personality: strong, demonstrative and outwardly aggressive. As with all left handers, he is strong off the pads and will punish the loose ones on the off side with equal felicity.

Though he may not look elegant as most lefties do, Smith is a relentless attacker and scores his runs quickly thereby giving his side the chance to bowl out most teams.

As a captain, he leads by example; a case in point being the Sydney test in 2009 when he came out to bat with a broken hand to save the game. He failed to do so, but won unanimous praise for his act of bravery. Often standing at 1st slip, chewing away on his gum, Smith is a brash and impulsive skipper who backs his team to the hilt. He is known to be an aggressive sledger too and has in return copped a fair amount from the Aussies early on when he was new to international cricket.

His crowning glory as captain came when he led his side to a famous test series win in Australia during the 2008-09 season and repeated the feat once again in the 2012-13 tour. In fact, 2012 would turn out to be his most successful year as a captain.

Prior to the success against Australia, South Africa crushed the then World No.1 Test team, England to annex the mace themselves. Andrew Strauss, the then England

skipper stepped aside and retired from all forms of the game.

With his retirement, Smith achieved a rare feat of retiring three (Hussain, Vaughan and Strauss) England captains in three successive tours.

Smith became the most successful Test captain of all times when he led his team to a fine victory over Pakistan at Cape Town. This was his 49th Test win as a captain, going past Ricky Ponting, who achieved 48 wins for Australia.

Though he was unable to lead his side to any ICC silverware during his tenure, Smith was one of the most impressive men to have led South Africa. His captaincy skills have been lauded and praised for the way he resurrected South African cricket after a turbulent phase.

Smith quit the ODI captaincy after his side crashed out of the quarterfinals during the ICC World Cup in 2011. He still remains the test captain though and has said that he wants to guide the next generation of youngsters as he prepares to leave behind a legacy. Smith played for the Rajasthan

Royals under Shane Warne during the first three seasons of the IPL.

His relationship with Warne changed as they discovered more about each other and became friends; where once Warne and Smith had a verbal war during the latter's early career.

Smith retired from international cricket, he took the decision on the third day of the third Test against Australia in March 2014.

He forwarded the news to his team-mates on the very same day. The main reason was the lack of form as he scored only 45 runs in six innings that he played in the series.

Smith also said that retirement was always on the back of his mind as

he had a young family and wanted to spend more time with them.

However, Smith had signed a contract with Surrey last year and will continue to play for them in the upcoming County Championship.

Interesting facts about Graeme Smith: Graeme Smith dated a swimsuit model, Minki van der Westhuizen in his early international days.

He was born in Johannesburg, South Africa on February 1, 1981.

He is married to Irish singer Morgan Deane. Together they have two kids, one daughter named Candence and a son born recently named Carter.

Cricbuzz

