




**Drive to fill vacant educator posts in EC**

*Page 7*



**SAPS goes "Back to Basics" to fight crime**

*Page 10*

**JOBS INSIDE**

# 32m drought relief



Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Senzeni Zokwana has announced funding that will bring relief to farmers affected by the drought.

**Priscilla Khumalo**

**G**overnment has pledged R32 million to help farmers affected by drought.

The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has made available soft loans as emergency funding towards working capital, infrastructure and a small portion for carry-over debt for the commercial sector.

A soft loan is a loan with a below-market rate of interest.

Giving an update on the status of drought

relief support to the agricultural sector, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Senzeni Zokwana said the R32 million had already been approved.

"The IDC will consider financial assistance to its existing clients that apply for drought relief support while for non-IDC clients, lending will not be made available directly to the end-beneficiary but rather through National Credit Act-compliant intermediaries like Land Bank and Agri-Business," Minister Zokwana explained.

The Minister said that the loan agreement would be entered into by the IDC and the

relevant intermediary.

"These intermediaries will have to apply to the IDC on a case-by-case basis and a due diligence will be applicable."

In relation to the directive, Minister Zokwana said the department had given provinces 20 per cent - or R226 million in total - of the Letsema grant, initially aimed at boosting food security but which was not going to be used in the immediate future because of the ongoing drought.

Provinces that have applied and received approval include KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, North West, Limpopo, Gauteng,

Mpumalanga and Northern Cape.

The Eastern Cape has applied, while Western Cape has not yet reprioritised, the Minister said.

In Limpopo, an additional amount of R51 million has been set aside, with R20 million going towards the procurement of fodder to assist smallholder and subsistence farmers, while R31 million will be spent on water for livestock.

The Free State has allocated R10.692 million and R29 million from its Equitable Share and Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme budget to assist subsistence, smallholder and commercial farmers.

The Gauteng province has to date spent R6 200 000 on animal feed, water infrastructure, phosphate licks and de-silting of earth dams.

A total of R7 717 080 was approved in the Northern Cape and has already assisted 257 farmers and helped in the distribution of 2 500 tons of fodder during October and November.

The North West has made available R25 million for drought relief. As at 18 January, 2016, 57 010 bags were distributed and 10 228 farmers received assistance.

An amount of R114 million was allocated in Mpumalanga for procurement of input supply for livestock, water harvesting, aggressive de-worming of livestock and borehole drilling, amongst others.

Meanwhile, Minister Zokwana met with MECs responsible for agriculture to take stock of the current drought and discuss the ongoing relief support provided to affected farmers and livestock owners.

Rural Development and Land Reform Minister Gugile Nkwinti also joined the meeting, which engaged on plans and solutions they can employ from now on.

Minister Zokwana acknowledged that there was a clear picture of the negative impact of drought on crop production, livestock, agro-processing and agriculture infrastructure, as well as food security in all affected provinces.

He highlighted that the department's priority was developing and implementing a climate change adaptation plan and programmes for the sector.

"We will give more support to Climate Smart Agriculture in terms of conservation agriculture," he said.

**\*For more on how government is assisting farmers see p8.**

## DIKGANG TŠE DI AKARETŠAGO

# Protect your retirement savings

Albert Pule

**G**overnment has introduced a law that aims to encourage South Africans to save and plan better for their retirement.

In December last year, President Jacob Zuma signed into law the Taxation Laws Amendment Act of 2015 to assist households and ensure that they are not vulnerable to poverty, especially during retirement.

The new law is not aimed at preventing public servants from accessing their pension monies when retiring or resigning.

According to a circular from both National Treasury and the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), the reforms coming into effect next month (March) seek to make provident funds similar to pension and retirement annuity funds.

Retirement Fund Director at National Treasury Alvina Thela said there had been a misunderstanding about the intention of the new law and as a result people were leaving their jobs out of fear that they would lose their money.

"Don't resign because of false rumours. If you resign you will lose a lot of your retirement benefit because the benefit will be taxed heavily. This means that after the tax is paid you will be left with much less money.

"If your savings stay in your fund, your money will grow bigger and you will pay

very little tax on your money when you retire. There will be a lot more money by the time you retire."

## BENEFITS OF THE NEW LAW

Thela said that the Taxation Laws Amendment Act had a number of benefits and would help people save money for retirement.

"One of the advantages is that as a provident fund member, you won't be taxed when you put money into a provident fund when you are saving for retirement.

"This is likely to increase your take home pay, so you'll have money that goes into your provident fund that is not taxed meaning that your taxable income will be less and your net pay will be more."

The other benefit, said Thela, is that "you are encouraged to save because now you are able to contribute without being taxed and you will be able to save more for retirement and that will protect you from poverty at old age and protect you from relying on the state or your family members to take care of you".

## DIFFERENT TYPES OF RETIREMENT FUNDS

Contributions towards retirement can be done in three different ways namely: by making a contribution towards a pension fund, retirement annuity fund and/or a provident fund.

A pension fund is similar to a retirement annuity fund in that when you contribute to those two funds, you get a tax deduction.



A tax deduction means that the money that goes into that fund is not taxed and this is different from a provident fund. A member that contributes to a provident fund gets taxed when the money goes into that fund.

The other difference is at retirement and when you exit these three products. When you exit from a pension fund or retirement annuity fund, you get a third as a lump sum and the remaining two thirds are paid as an annuity. A provident fund is treated differently.

When you exit from a provident fund, you get a cash lump sum and your entire savings are given to you at one go.

Thela has also encouraged people who want to resign and cash in on their retirement to get proper financial advice before taking their savings.

"Protect your retirement savings. Your retirement is your future income. Seek financial advice and protect and preserve your money when you change jobs or resign."

## Dipeakanyoleswa tše mpsha tša Mmušo tša mabapi le ditšhelete tša go rola modiro

Dipeakanyoleswa tše mpsha tša mabapi le ditšhelete tša go rola modiro di ikemišeditše go thuša maAfrika Borwa go šireletša ditšheletepolokwa tša bona tša go rola mošomo. Tshedimošo ka botlalo ke ye latelago:

### NAA KE KA LEBAKA LA ENG MMUŠO SA MATHOMO O TŠWELEDITŠE MELAWANA YE YA PEAKANYOLESWA?

Peakanyoleswa ye e ikemišeditše go šireletša bašomi bao ba rolago modiro ka lebaka la mengwaga ya botšofadi ka go ba hlohletša go boloka tšhelete nakong ya ge ba rola modiro. Gape e ikemišeditše go nolofatša tšhepedišo ya bjale le go dira gore ditšweletšwa tša ditšhelete tša go rola modiro di se be le sephiri.

### NAA KE DIPHETOGO DIFĒ TŠEO DI TLAGO TSENYWA TIRIŠONG KA LA 1 HLAKOLA 2016?

Molaophetošwa wa Melao ya Metšhelo wa 2013 le wa 2015 o tla tsenywa tirišong ka la 1 Hlakola 2016. Melao ye e dumelela maloko a dikhwama tša mabapi le go rola modiro go fokotša motšhelo wo ba o lefago ka gore ba kgone go goga ditšhelete tšeo ba di lefago ka kgwedi ka dikhwameng tša mabapi le go rola modiro go fihla go 27.5% (go fihla go tšhelete ya godimodimo ya R350 000) ka kgwedi, bjalo ka persente ya letseno la bona. Melao ye meswa le yona e oketša tšhelete ye e nyakegago go dira gore ge mošomi a rola modiro a hwetša tšhelete ka dikarolo ka kgwedi go tloga go R75 000 go fihla go R247 500 (ye e bitšwego "de minimis").

### NAA BOTHATA KE ENG KA GA TSHEPEDIŠO YA BJALE YEO MOLAO WO O LEKAGO GO E LOKIŠA?

Mo lebakeng le, mehuta ye e fapanego ya dikhwama tša go rola modiro di aba dikholego tše di fapanego tša motšhelo. Go fa mohlala, ditšhelete tša mabapi le go rola modiro tše di lefšago ka dikarolo ka kgwedi di dumelela gore go be le kholego ya phokoletšo ya go gogwa ga motšhelo fela go fihla ka 15%, dikhwama tša phrobitente tšona go fihla ka 20%, gomme dikhwama tša phenšene go fihla ka 27.5%. Sa bobedi ke gore, maloko a sekhwama

sa phrobitente ga a gogelwe motšhelo go ditšhelete tše ba di lefetšego, mola e le gore maloko a sekhwama sa phenšene wona a gogelwa motšhelo. Ditšhelete tša sekhwama sa phenšene le sa sekhwama sa mabapi le go rola modiro di nyaka gore karolo ye itšego (ke gore, pedi-tharong) ya kholego e lefše bjalo ka letseno la ka mehla, mola e le gore dikhwama tša phrobitente tšona di dumelela gore motho yo a rolago modiro a tšeye tšhelete yeo ya kholego ka moka bjalo ka palomoka ya kheše ge ba rola modiro.

### NAA MOLAO O MOSWA O TLA NYALANTŠHA BJANG PHAPANO YE YA TSHEPEDIŠO YA METŠHELO LE YA DIKHOLEGO?

Diphetogo tše kgolo di tla šoma go dikhwama tša phrobitente. Maloko a sekhwama sa phrobitente bjalo a tla hwetša tee-tharong (1/3) ya tšhelete ya bona ya kholego ya go rola modiro bjalo ka palomoka ya tšhelete ge ba rola modiro gomme pedi-tharong ye e šetšego (2/3) e swanetše go lefša ka dikarolo ka kgwedi. Go fa mohlala, ge e le gore tšhelete ka moka yeo e lego gona ge mošomi a rola modiro ke R300 000, tšhelete ye e ka bago R100 000 (ke gore 1/3) e ka tšewa bjalo ka kheše gomme R200 000 (ke gore 2/3) e tla swanelwa ke go lefša ka dikarolo ka kgwedi.

Phetošo ye e tla šoma FELA go ditšhelete tšeo di lefetšwego ka morago ga la 1 Hlakola 2016. Maloko a dikhwama tša phrobitente a tla hwetša gape phokoletšo ya motšhelo go ditšhelete tšeo ba di lefago ka sekhwameng se.

### NAA GO HWETŠA TŠHELETE KA DIKAROLO GO RA GORENG?

Go hwetša tšhelete ka dikarolo go ra gore o tšea karolo ya tšhelete ya gago ya mabapi le go rola modiro ka ditšhelete tše nnyane tša kgwedi le kgwedi, sebakeng sa go e hwetša ka moka bjalo ka tšhelete ya kheše ka botlalo.

### NAA TSHEPEDIŠO YE MPŠHA YA DIKHWAMA TŠA PHROBITENTE E TLA BA EFE GO YA KA MOTŠHELO?

Maloko a dikhwama tša phrobitente bjale

a tlo kgona go dira kleime ya go gogwa ga motšhelo go ditšhelete tše ba bego ba di lefa ka sekhwameng lekgetho la mathomo. Sa bobedi, ditšhelete tšeo bengmešomo ba bona ba di lefago ka dikhwameng tša bona tša phrobitente di tla thoma go bonala diliping tša bona tša meputso. Sa boraro, maloko a mantši a sekhwama bao ba lefago tšhelete ka dikhwameng tša bona tša phrobitente ba tla bona koketšo ye nnyane ya moputso wo ba yago le ona gae. Sa bone, ditšhelete tše mpsha ka moka tše di lefšago ka dikhwameng (le kgolo ya tšona) tša phrobitente ka morago ga la 1 Hlakola 2016 ke bao ba nago le mengwaga ya ka fase ga ye 55 e tla swanelwa ke go lefša kgwedi ka kgwedi ge mošomi a rola modiro ge fela boleng bja yona bo feta R247 500 (ke gore mollwane wa *de minimis*). Maloko ka moka a sekhwama sa phrobitente a tla no tšwela pele go tšea ditšhelete ka moka tšeo ba di boloketšego nakong ya ge ba rola modiro, le kgolo ya tšwala go tšona, tšeo di ka bego di kokotletše go fihla ka la 1 Hlakola 2016, bjalo ka tšhelete ya kheše ka botlalo ge ba rola modiro.

### NAA KE TLA ANGWA KE MOLAO WO GE KE NA LE MENGWAGA YE MEKAE?

Maloko a dikhwama tša phrobitente bao ba nago le mengwaga ye 55 ka la 1 Hlakola 2016 BA KA SE ANGWE ke melao ye meswa ge ba kgetha go se fetošē dikhwama. Ke fela ditšhelete tšeo di lefšago ka dikhwameng ka morago ga la 1 Hlakola 2016 (ke gore ditšhelete tše mpsha tšeo di lefšago kgwedi ka kgwedi) tšeo di tla amago maloko a dikhwama tša phrobitente bao ba nago le mengwaga ya ka FASE ga ye 55 ka la 1 Hlakola 2016, gomme ge fela e le gore ditšhelete tše di lefetšwego ka sekhwameng di le ka godimo ga R247 500.

### NAA MOLAO WO O MOSWA O TLA ŠOMA BJANG GO BAO BA FETOŠAGO MEŠOMO?

Molao o moswa GA O ŠOME ge o fetošā mešomo. Maloko a sekhwama sa phrobitente goba/le a sekhwama sa phenšene ba tla no kgona go tšwela pele go fetošā mešomo gomme ba ntšha tšhelete ya bona ka moka ya mabapi

le go rola modiro. Le ge e le gore Mmušo o hlohletša batho go lota ditšhelete tša bona tše ba di bolokilego sebakeng sa go tšea tšhelete ya bona ka sekhwameng sa phrobitente nako ye nngwe le ye nngwe ge ba fetošā mešomo.

### NAA MOLAO O MOSWA O TLA ŠOMA BJANG GO SEKHWAMA SA PHENŠENE SA BAŠOMI BA MMUŠO (GEPF)?

GEPF e ka se angwe ke dipeakanyoleswa tše ka ge e šetše e lefa tšheletemoka (tšhelete ya kheše ka botlalo) le phenšene (tšhelete ye e lefšago motho yo a rotšego modiro kgwedi ka kgwedi) go maloko ao a šomilego mengwaga ye e fetago ye 10. Eupša go ya ka motšhelo, maloko a GEPF a tla lefišwa motšhelo wo go lebeletšwe mellwane ye e swanago go ditšhelete tše di lefšago nakong ya go rola modiro yeo e lego ka gare ga melao ya motšhelo.

### NAA KE KA LEBAKA LA ENG MMUŠO O RE BOTŠA KA FAO RE SWANETŠEGO GO FIHLELELA TŠHELETE YA RENA YA NAKONG YA GE RE ROLA MODIRO?

Molao o mabapi le go thuša batho gore ba itokišetše bokamoso gakaone ka go boloka tšhelete yeo ba tlogo e šomiša nakong ya ge ba rotše modiro le go hwetša letseno ka ditšhelete tše nnyane tša kgwedi le kgwedi ge ba rotše modiro. Letseno le le hwetšwego kgafetšakgafetša le šireletša batho bao ba rotšego modiro gore ba se ke ba šomiša tšhelete ka moka ka pela le gore ba se ke ba bota ba leloko le Mmušo kudukudu. Dinyakišišo di bontšha gore palo ya ka fase ga 10% ya maAfrika Borwa ao a šomago ba kgona go rola modiro ba tšhephile tšhelete ya bona ye ba fiwago yona ge ba rola modiro le go tšwela pele go phela bophelo bja maemo a makaone ge ba rotše modiro.

Go hwetša tshedimošo ka botlalo etela: [www.treasury.gov.za](http://www.treasury.gov.za)



