



Barbara Creecy

Creecy gives rights to small-scale fishers

ENVIRONMENT, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Barbara Creecy will tomorrow hand over 15-year fishing rights allocations to small-scale co-operatives in KwaZulu-Natal, her department said yesterday.

Creecy is also to announce the basket of fish species in the rights being granted and some of the support programmes facilitated by the government to help the fishing co-operatives.

After the department amended its legislation in 2016 to recognise the importance of small-scale fishers, it launched an expression of interest process. A total of 316 communities from the four coastal provinces registered their interest. | African News Agency (ANA)

Counterfeit goods worth R9m seized

THE RAIDING of illegal traders and confiscation of counterfeit goods continued in Johannesburg. Police spokesperson Mathapelo Peters said one person was arrested during this week's raids and illegal goods estimated at R9 million were confiscated.

"Police, together with officials from brand protectors, acted on information received about a building in the inner city. The goods included trousers, T-shirts, running shoe and track pants with local and international brands were packed and found in storage units," she said. | African News Agency (ANA)

Woman critical after being shot in robbery

A THIRTY-two-year-old woman is in a critical condition after she was shot during an armed robbery at a shop in Pretoria yesterday.

Netcare 911 spokesperson Shawn Herbst said the woman, sustained a single gunshot wound to the upper left side of her body. "Paramedics assessed the patient, who was found to be in a critical condition. A full, advanced life support resuscitation was initiated on scene. The patient was packaged and transported by private ambulance to hospital," Herbst said.

Police are investigating. | African News Agency (ANA)



Nicholas Ninow

Child rapist Ninow given life sentence

CONVICTED child rapist Nicholas Ninow was sentenced to life in prison in the North Gauteng High Court yesterday.

Judge Papi Mosopa also sentenced Ninow to five years for defeating the ends of justice and another five years for possession of an illegal substance. All sentences will run concurrently.

Masopa issued an order that Ninow's details be recorded in the sex offenders' register.

There were loud cheers in the public gallery as the judge announced the life sentence.

During testimony in mitigation of sentence this week, Ninow conceded that he knew what he was doing was wrong when he raped the then 7-year-old girl in a toilet at the Dros restaurant in Silverton last September. | African News Agency (ANA)

■ VIOLENCE

UWC prof makes ministerial task team

STAFF REPORTER

THE UWC deputy vice-chancellor Professor Pamela Dube has been appointed to serve on the Department of Higher Education and Training Ministerial Task Team.

The team will advise Higher Education Minister Blade Nzimande and his department on matters relating to sexual harassment and gender-based violence (GBV) at South African universities.

"I remain concerned about the prevalence of sexual harassment and

GBV in our universities and believe a great deal of work can be done to improve our understanding of the situation in all our universities," Nzimande wrote in a letter of appointment to Dube.

In 2015, Dube was appointed as UWC's deputy vice-chancellor: student development and support. She has oversight over the Centre for Student Support Services, the Financial Aid Office, Residential Services, Sports Administration, Campus Health, the Office for Student Development and Student Governance, and she works

closely with the Student Representative Council.

UWC rector and vice-chancellor, Professor Tyrone Pretorius, congratulated Dube on her appointment.

"Professor Dube played a pivotal role in drafting UWC's updated Sexual Violence Policy. The comprehensive policy is aimed at dealing with sexual harassment and gender-based violence. Therefore, I do not doubt that my colleague will be instrumental on the task team which will advise the minister and the department of higher education and training," he said.



Pamela Dube

■ NATION

President ducks question

Ramaphosa asked why ANC appointed white-run company for party's funeral scheme

SIHLE MAVUSO

PRESIDENT Cyril Ramaphosa has ducked a question on how the ANC allegedly overlooked several capable black-owned funeral policy underwriting companies and appointed a white-run company.

The question was posed to Ramaphosa in Durban yesterday, where he met the city's business community to hear and resolve their concerns.

In August, ANC treasurer Paul Mashatile announced the party planned to launch its own funeral policy scheme that would benefit ANC members. At the time, he said the scheme would have several features including annual grocery vouchers and an option for members to settle membership fees annually.

But the issue quickly became dogged with controversy when it emerged that the appointed underwriting company allegedly had white males in top management positions.

It was even suggested that the ruling party was not interested in empowering black people.

Yesterday, the confrontational question was posed to Ramaphosa by Nomfundo Mcoyi, chief executive of Durban-based Icobethu Funerals, and the provincial chairperson of the SA Funeral Practitioners Association (Safpa).

Mcoyi asked why the ruling party,



PRESIDENT Cyril Ramaphosa, Trade and Industry Minister Ebrahim Patel (right) and KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala address members of the business community at an event organised by the Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry. | SIBONELO NGCOBO African News Agency (ANA)

which was predominantly black, opted for Constantia Insurance Company when there were equally capable black-owned companies that could do the job.

"That underwriter is white; we have a lot of black companies that have got insurance licences. Why white – the ANC is mostly black? I am not being racist, though, but why? Undertakers are worried; they are waiting for

answers from me provincially and even nationally as well," Mcoyi said to Ramaphosa, who was accompanied by Trade and Industry Minister Ebrahim Patel and KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala.

When the time came for Ramaphosa to respond, he asked Mcoyi to direct all her questions to the ANC head office, Luthuli House.

"You will have to go to Luthuli

House to find out what the ANC is saying, that we want to have an insurance policy for our members and are talking to certain entities," he said before responding to other questions.

ANC national spokesperson Pule Mabe did not reply to written queries about why the ruling party had overlooked black companies.

Speaking on the sidelines shortly after Ramaphosa left the venue, Mcoyi said the president's response was shocking because he headed the ruling party, and there was no way he would not be aware of how the decision was taken.

"We have raised our concerns because there are black businesses licensed and capable of doing what the ANC wants, but they never approached them," she said.

She added that as the session was aired live on SABC News Channel, members of Safpa were already sending her messages, raising concerns about the response of the president. She also pointed out that members of Safpa had tried on several platforms to gain the ANC's attention but all their attempts proved fruitless.

Mcoyi said small, black-owned undertakers were being "squeezed" by big insurance companies, who she said were also "invading" the once-lucrative sector. She had pleaded with Ramaphosa to intervene, but he said it was an issue of competition.

■ OMBUD'S REPORT

Poor communication tops gripes against cops

MWANGI GITHAHU

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LANGUAGE barriers and poor telephone etiquette topped the list of complaints lodged with the office of the Western Cape Police Ombud (WCPO), which received a total of 433 complaints during the 2018/19 financial year.

Ombudsman Johan Brand said the category of "poor communication" involved accusations that "incorrect information had been supplied, there had been a lack of telephone etiquette, failure to provide feedback, as well as language barriers".

Altogether, from the WCPO's launch in 2015 to March 31 this year, the office had received 1 885 complaints.

The figures are contained in the WCPO's latest annual report, which was presented to the standing committee on community safety in the provincial legislature yesterday.

"Unacceptable behaviour" listed in the report refers to complaints of the breach of SAPS regulations. This includes, "endangering the lives of others by disregarding safety rules,

“Endangering lives by disregarding safety rules unacceptable”

Western Cape Police Ombud REPORT

misusing one's position in the service, sleeping on duty and being under the influence of intoxicating, illegal, unauthorised, habit-forming drugs, including alcohol".

Blue Downs, one of the top 10 SAPS clusters in the province, had a total of 58 complaints. Of these, 22 and 14, respectively, were for poor communication and unacceptable behaviour.

Khayelitsha had 57 complaints, including 10 about poor investigation and four regarding a poor response. Mitchell's Plain came in third, with a total of 56 complaints, while the Cape Town SAPS totted up 44 complaints.

Playwright's conviction hailed

THE Department of Sports, Arts and Culture has welcomed the conviction of veteran playwright Welcome Msomi in the Palm Ridge Magistrate's Court in Johannesburg, saying the R8 million he stole from the Living Legends Legacy Programme (LLLP) must be recovered. Msomi, 76, was found guilty on 61 counts of theft on Tuesday.

"The department wishes to note that while it considers justice to have been done in this matter in the form of the conviction of Mr Msomi, this is not the end of the matter as far as (the department) is concerned.

"The department is aware that the trustees of the LLLP will continue with the legal action, through the courts and collaborating with law enforcement institutions, to ensure full recovery of the funds stolen by Mr Msomi," the department said.

The LLLP was started by the department in 2018 for the country's arts, culture and heritage legends. A trust was set up to empower the legends, who include Letta Mbulu, Wally Serote, Abigail Kubheka, Babs Mlangeni and Don Mattera. Msomi was chairperson of the programme.

He was arrested in Durban earlier this year after trustees discovered that millions of rand were stolen from the bank account. Msomi's sentencing proceedings will start on November 28. | African News Agency (ANA)

■ ABALONE

Overstrand SAPS report

THE report by the Western Cape Police Ombudsman on the complaint of poor response by the SAPS at Overstrand stations – including Gansbaai, Kleinmond, Hermanus and Stanford – particularly as it relates to the poaching of abalone, was presented to the provincial standing committee on community safety yesterday.

The Ombudsman, Johan Brand said: "I conducted an investigation concerning allegations that the SAPS in the Overstrand municipal area was unable to perform its mandate due to an insufficient allocation of resources, resulting in inefficiency of the delivery of services by SAPS in the area."

"I have found that the complaint is substantiated," said Brand.

Chairperson of the committee Reagan Allen, of the DA, said: "The report highlights the necessity for the reclassification of abalone poaching as organised crime in terms of Section 16 of the South African Police Service Act, Act 68 of 1995."

Community Safety MEC Albert Fritz confirmed having received the report. | Mwangi Githahu

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SEA POINT
City Improvement District

Notice Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Sea Point City Improvement District NPC (SPCID) will be hosting an AGM. All stakeholders are invited to a review of the year's activities and planning for 2020/21.

Date: 14 November 2019
Time: 10:30
Venue: Protea Hotel, Arthurs Road, Sea Point

Resolutions presented at the Members meeting can only be voted on by bona fide members of the SPCID. This membership is available free of charges to all owners properties within the SPCID footprint, but they must be registered before 7th November 2019.

For further information on how to register, AGM documentation and go to
www.seapointcid.co.za, e mail
wayne@seapointcid.co.za or
call 021 434 1234

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