



office of the premier

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Lihovisi la Ndvunankhulu

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Kantoor van die Premier

## MEDIA ADVISORY

**For Immediate Release**

**All Media Houses**

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### **PREMIER MTSHWENI-TSIPANE CONGRATULATES AMABHOKOBHOKO AND MASHEGO FOR THEIR WINNING STREAK IN MAJOR TITLES**

Mpumalanga Premier, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane has joined President Cyril Ramaphosa and the nation in congratulating Amabhokobhoko for winning the Rugby World Cup in France on Saturday. The Springboks won 12-11 as defending champions against New Zealand in a nail biting final. The Premier says the victory confirms South Africa as a sporting nation. "The team's victory is a result of resilience, vigour and commitment to the course until the last breath. We congratulate Captain Siya Kolisi, the entire team, including the coaching staff, for uniting our nation through such phenomenal victory," the Premier stated.

Four of the players in the squad are from Mpumalanga, namely: Trevor Nyakane, Kwagga Smit, Duane Vermeulen and Faf De Klerk. As such Mtshweni-Tsipane says the players are examples of what Mpumalanga stands for. "These players represent the patriotic spirit that is prevalent among the citizens of the Province, of making a valuable contribution whenever a national opportunity lends in their hands. They illustrated the commitment we uphold as a Province, towards the success of South Africa in all spheres," the Premier explained.

Mtshweni-Tsipane further congratulated Dr Claude Mashego, newly crowned Miss World South Africa. Mashego, of Bushbuckridge, is the first to win the title. She was among the twelve (12) contestants for the title. Mashego is now destined to contest the Miss World pageant in March next year, in India.

Mtshweni-Tsipane says Mashego's victory is an embodiment of Mpumalanga's pioneering spirit. "Dr Mashego has added her name to the list of Mpumalanga citizens, whom we are proud of. She joins several eminent citizens of our Province, in various fields, who nailed the colours of Mpumalanga to the mast, in an extra-ordinary way. These include former Miss South Africa, Rolene Strauss, Josiah Thugwane, a gold medalist who won it in the 1996 summer Olympics in the United States, Sibusiso Vilane, the first African to summit Mount Everest, and the players, featured in the rugby squad," Mtshweni-Tsipane emphasised.

Ends...

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