

PM on back to School campaign trail in Katse

On the 15 May the Right Honourable the Prime Minister of Lesotho, Mr. Ntsokoane Sam Matekane, with his entourage of ministers visited Katse area on a back to school campaign trail. Introducing the team that flanked the prime minister on his visit and outlining the purpose of the visit, government Secretary, Mrs Teboho 'Malisebo 'Mokela stated that the prime minister takes education as a key to unlocking the future And that it is therefore important that they make education aids/tools available to every learner to-facilitate learning and teaching for all children in the country. "All of us here have been through the hands of the teachers and we know that they hold our future", she said.

Three hundred and fifteen learners were beneficiaries of the prime minister's generosity and were provided with complete school uniform and food, including shoes and shoe polish. Matekane's generosity was extended not to learners from schools around Bokong area only but to vulnerable members of society with disabilities. Four electronically propelled wheel chairs were donated . Among the donations that the prime minister gave were two hundred bags of rice, school stationery, sanitary towels for girl children and school bags.

In his opening remarks, the chief of the area, Hlojeng Khethisa praised the 15th May, 2025 event in Bokong as magnificent in that for years his community has never been visited by high level government representatives. "For that I am happy to welcome you here on behalf of Bokong community", Khethisa said.

The community represented by the ward councillor, Tsepo Mosala was also able to air its concerns to government authorities. These ranged from appalling schooling conditions of a nearby Katse Primary school which lacks not only basic sanitary facilities but enough class rooms to accommodate 200 learners enrolled, to unfair labour practice by Sanlei Trout Farm. In his remarks, Mosala also did not spare the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) criticism, stating that; "while we appreciate the short-term job opportunities the LHDA provides, the community requires transparent labour recruitment process".

Addressing the public the prime minister assured the community that their grievances had been heard and the government will respond to them. He made a commitment that the minister of education, honourable Ntoi Rapapa who was with him during the visit will attend to issues raised for that particular school. The prime minister took the opportunity to announce major development projects which are in the pipeline for Thaba-Tseka district. He stated that funding for the tarrying of the road between Thaba-Tseka and Katse has been secured and the work to upgrade the road will start in September this year. He Added that this development in the district will include the upgrading of the road from Makunyapane, outside Thaba-Tseka town that links Thaba-Mokhotlong district. Tseka district to The prime emphasized the importance of education to the development of the country, urged the community to join hands with teachers in developing young minds to the level of being responsible adults.