

Avail water to empower women

● Lack of access to water is an impediment towards socio-economic development ideals. It negatively affects empowerment for people – especially women, as they are the ones who go looking for water for their families to survive.

As we celebrate International Women's Day tomorrow, let us remember that the day is a clarion call to accelerate women's empowerment and gender equality.

This year the day is celebrated under the theme "Accelerate Action", with the hope of speeding up progress worldwide to achieve gender parity. The theme emphasises the importance of taking swift and decisive steps to achieve gender equality for women – both in personal and professional spheres. Water is a source of life and a lack of it causes hardship for communities, especially women. It is important we fast-track water provision to ease the burden on the shoulders of women and the girl child. – Themba Khoza, water & sanitation department