



## INTERNET ARTICLE

## 14 October 2021

## Minister Mchunu and Premier Zikalala call for enhanced water conservation in KZN

Minister Senzo Mchunu and KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala have called on residents to enhance their water conservation measures amid marginal dam levels increase in the province. This is as the Ministry of Water and Sanitation is on a ministerial working session which aims to assess the state of water and sanitation related services in KZN.

Speaking during one of the sessions with the Provincial Executive led by Premier Zikalala, Minister Mchunu said South Africa is a water scarce country but cautioned residents not to be alarmed.

"The fact is that we are a water scarce country means we have to start behaving like people who are aware of this known fact because if we do not heed the call to save water, we will be in serious trouble," Minister Mchunu said.

Minister Mchunu's remarks come as the province's dam levels minimally increased from last week's 66.5% to 66.7%. Compared to the similar period in the previous year, the provincial storage capacity was lower at 53.9%.

Supporting Minister Mchunu's remarks, Premier Zikalala said the provincial government aims to work closely with local government to ensure the effective implementation of the recently launched Provincial Water Master Plan which is meant to ensure universal access to water in the province.

"South Africa, in particular KwaZulu-Natal, is facing water service challenges caused by constrained water sources, insufficient water infrastructure maintenance and recurrent droughts driven by climatic variation just to name a few," he said.

"It is therefore of significance that we have to accelerate the provision of water and sanitation services to communities in lack of such services," Premier Zikalala stated.

Premier Zikalala also called on residents to practice active citizenry by reporting water leaks and the vandalism of water infrastructure.

While calling on residents to enhance water conservation measures, Minister Mchunu and Premier Zikalala committed to get all spheres of government to work closely together.









## **Lebogang Maseko**



