

INTERNET ARTICLE

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Minister Senzo Mchunu visits Dimbaza village, near King William's Town

The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senzo Mchunu, addressed and interacted with members of the community at Dimbaza village on 25 March 2022. The community members voiced their frustrations regarding the recent water supply disruption at Buffalo City Metropolitan (BCM), in the Eastern Cape.

The discontinuing of water supply came about when the South African Municipal Workers Union (SAMWU) experienced issues which could not be resolved with Amatola Water. SAMWU then got engaged in an unprotected strike on the 1st of March, and then again from the 9th to the 15th of March 2022. During this period many villages in BCM, including Dimbaza, struggled to get water as striking workers abstained from their duties.

Minister Mchunu engaged with the community members and gave them account on how it came about that water was denied to them, and he also explained what the Department of Water and Sanitation did to resolve the issue. The Minister profusely apologised to the community and indicated that the community members are respected as citizens of the country.

“The issue of SAMWU could have been handled without a breach of an agreement between SAMWU and the entity in terms of water provision. Your constitutional right of having access to water was violated and we therefore sincerely apologise to you. We are working very hard to ensure that this does not happen again in the future”, said Minister Mchunu.

Nthabiseng Dhlamini

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water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

