



INTERNET ARTICLE

Deputy Minister Tshwete celebrates national toilet day with the people of Britstown

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Community members of Britstown in Northern Cape Province were beyond excitement as the Department of Water and Sanitation's Deputy Minister Pamela Tshwete visited the area to commemorate National Toilet Day with them this morning.

Tshwete started off her visit by visiting the beneficiaries of the department's project aimed at eradicating the bucket system for the vulnerable and less fortunate and to monitor its state of readiness. 230 of the planned 404 low flush system toilets complete with wash basins and bathtubs are already complete and in use. She also visited the Gentle Care Home For The Vulnerable to present them with goodies that ranged from toilet papers to bath soaps and also encouraged them to adopt and continue to practice good hygiene manners and use water sparingly.

Dinah No-sign Mtshanjane, a 94 year old woman staying in Britstown was overwhelmed by Deputy Minister's visit. "All my struggles are over and I never thought I would live to witness this", she said in-between sobs.

The people of Britstown roared and cheered as the Deputy Minister shared with them the importance of leading a life style of good hygiene. While also sharing her childhood experiences with regard to sanitation, Tshwete emphasised that although the nature of one's sanitation facilities plays a role in issues of hygiene, good discipline and appreciation of the little that one has is highly essential.

"The department can provide people with the right sanitation facilities but if individuals do not have the discipline to maintain them, the efforts will be futile," DM advised.

The national Toilet Day is a platform to raise awareness of the sanitation issues across the country and urge key role players including ordinary citizens to take up their role in partnering with government to eradicate sanitation backlogs. It is also one initiative which recognises the importance to celebrate progress made in reducing the sanitation backlog and further recommit towards making current sanitation services sustainable.



water & sanitation

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