



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

MINISTER VISITS WAR ON LEAKS TRAINEES

06 May 2016

Minister Nomvula Mokonyane accompanied by Deputy Minister Pam Tshwete visited the Colliery Training College (CTC) in Emalahleni Local Municipality on 06 May 2016 to assess progress regarding the War on Leaks training programme and to engage the learners.

The Colliery Training College is one of the 11 centres providing the War on Leaks training in the Mpumalanga Province. The centre has 134 learners enrolled for artisan training as part of the War on Leaks training which includes training for skills such as artisans, plumbers and water agents.

The Ministerial delegation which included Minister and Deputy Minister, MEC for Public Works, Roads and Transport in Mpumalanga, Emalahleni Local Municipality Acting Executive Mayor, and the Chief Executives of Rand Water and EWSETA started their visit by taking a tour of the workshops to get first hand exposure to the training being offered to the learners. They visited different workshops where they engaged with the learners in relation to the training offered. The learners were excited to engage and interact with the Minister and Deputy Minister.

In her address, Deputy Minister Tshwete stated that the War on Leaks is a Presidential project. She further stated that she hopes to see more females in the next intake where 7000 learners will be recruited.

Minister Mokonyane encouraged the learners to take the training seriously and learn from their tutors in order to come out of the training and sort out the leaks in our communities as the country is losing about R7 billion worth of potable water through leaks. She told the learners that their future looks bright and the country is waiting for them. "The future of this country is in your hands because water has no substitute. There is no serious and complicated war than the war to save water", she said.

In response to the Minister, Kgaugelo Leopeng representing the learners thanked the department for the opportunity. He further stated that being here at CTC has exposed the



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learners to artisanal skills and to be disciplined. He closed his statement by using the well known quote “Instead of giving us a fish, rather teach us how to fish”.

South Africa is a water scarce country and we are all called upon to ensure that we conserve every available drop of water and stop all leaks in our communities. Water conservation is everybody’s responsibility.

Themba Khoza