



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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FORMER SANDF IN BUSHBUCKRIDGE BENEFIT FROM GOVERNMENT HOUSES

Twenty five proud former military veterans in Hoxani, Bushbuckridge Local Municipality had their dignity restored yesterday when they officially received their newly built houses from MEC Speed Mashilo. The delivery comes as a result of a programme by the Department to address housing needs for military veterans and honouring them for the role they played towards the attainment of the country's freedom.

Of the 78 military veterans' units targeted for this financial year the Department has successfully delivered 68 to rightful and deserving beneficiaries. One of the beneficiaries, 47-year old Aaron Manzini who joined the SANDF in 1990, appreciated government for this programme and that it had brought stability and peaceful sleeps in his household: "Back then as a soldier all I could think of was to serve and protect my country. There was never enough time to stop and reflect of the future," recapped Manzini.

Now unemployed and living off temporarily jobs, Manzini revealed that he will now not worry much but focus on manufacturing bricks to sell in his area and ensure that his family goes to bed on a full stomach. "The strain was too much. I am glad now I have got my house and I won't be worried about leaking roofs during rainy days. My focus now is to raise my family," he said. Provincial Secretary for MKMVA Mr. Charles Nkuna implored that government must consider appointing the veterans to build some of the houses since most of them are unemployed and had building companies.

"This will alleviate poverty and ensure that the lives of the military veterans are empowered for many years to come. Most of the veterans are unemployed and by giving them this opportunity to partake in the building processes will definitely make a meaningful impact in their lives," confirmed Nkuna. MEC Mashilo congratulated the beneficiaries and urged them to take good care of their houses. He reminded the veterans of their noble nature as well as the legacy that will be carried on for as much as they live.

Mashilo had later on the day handed over an amalgamated number of 1200 title deeds in Shatale and Oporn Gate to beneficiaries of government's low cost housing who have already taken occupation of their houses. During the handover he advised of the importance of the legal document and that it should not be passed on to another without proper consent by the owner. "It is critically important to keep the title deed safe because it permits you the right ownership to your house which means you will live free without fear of illegal evictions," guided MEC Mashilo.

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