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# School Learners Transport opens to calm and stability

**MAHIKENG MAIL - MAHIKENG:** The department of community safety and transport management has rolled out the second generation of Learner Transport Services which took off on July 24 when the schools reopened for the third term.

In a media statement last week, the department said it had undertaken a process of engagements and partnership with relevant stakeholders which included the Department of Education as a build-up towards the implementation of this massive project.

In preparation of the reopening of schools, the department established an operation centre/war room where officials of the department were on high alert since last Sunday to date to receive any challenges that may be experienced and to resolve

such immediately.

“The department has furthermore drawn a schedule and assigned departmental officials to visit schools and closely monitor operators and verify whether they are delivering according to expectations.

“Our responsibility therefore remains to monitor the function and operation of this project and take corrective action.

“To date the department has received a number of queries from operators, school principals and even taxi owners which can be summarised into two major categories”, said spokesperson, Mme Lethoko.

## Pair bust with elephant tusks

ELFAS TORERAI

TWO men will appear in the Bloemhof Magistrate's Court today after they were arrested for being found in possession of ivory.

The men aged 33 and 38 were arrested by the police in Bloemhof on Wednesday.

Provincial police spokesperson Brig Sabata Mokgwabone said the

arrest followed an intelligence driven operation.

"According to information, a follow-up was made after intelligence was received about the suspects. The suspects were found inside a stationary motor vehicle in a street in Bloemhof," Mokgwabone said.

"The police search led to the discovery of elephant tusks in a black plastic bag."

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# Female police officers saluted

## Provincial commissioner acknowledges women in blue for their sacrifices in the fight against crime

ELFAS TORERA

NORTH West police commissioner Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane said it is befitting to appraise female police officers who give their all in maintaining peace and order in the province.

She said this as part of her Women's Month message to her troops.

Motswenyane said it is important to acknowledge all women officers for the sacrifices they give on a daily basis to safeguard communities.

"This is the month in which thousands of women of all races, class and religious persuasions marched to the Union Buildings in protest against the extension of pass laws in 1956. In the same spirit, we applaud the women in the police for the work they do," Motswenyane said.

In honour of the historic 1956 march, the government has since declared August Women's Month and August 9 is commemorated as Women's Day.

This year, the national Women's Day celebration will be in Kimberley, Northern Cape under the theme The Year of OR Tambo: Women United in Moving South Africa Forward.

"We want to acknowledge women in blue who sacrifice their lives and time to enhance visibility in the fight against crime and ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice in an endeavour



**SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITIES:** The provincial police commissioner has praised the women in blue who make many sacrifices to maintain peace and order in the province. PICTURE: GALLO IMAGES

to create a safe and secure environment for all inhabitants of this country.

"In support of this and taking into consideration the recent violent attacks and abuse against women and children,

women in the SAPS together with their counterparts from other law enforcement agencies in the province have embarked on awareness activities and crime prevention operations under the

umbrella of Operation Basadi," Motswenyane said. She said women served in almost all areas of policing and it was not often that their efforts were noticed and duly

acknowledged.

"We have women in various units who are serving communities diligently at various operational environments including crime investigation services, public order police (POP), K9, forensic services, visible policing, mounted unit and many others.

"These members are not only working, but are also exposed to gruesome crime scenes and dangerous situations including crowd control just to ensure that we have safer communities and reduce the number of sexual offences and attacks on women and children."

The provincial commissioner said it was proper that female police officers be given necessary recognition.

"We would like to thank women in the support services and urge them to keep up the good work they are doing to ascertain that the operational units achieve their policing and constitutional mandate of preventing, combatting and investigating crime," Motswenyane said.

She underscored that this year's celebration would be more on the streets.

The commissioner urged members of the community to cooperate throughout the month with women in the law enforcement agencies for their hard work, sacrifices and brave actions to prevent abuse and ensure a safer society for women and children.

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