



Well wishes for Springboks

Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture Zizi Kodwa says the national rugby team has in recent days inspired the nation, and brought hope. He made these remarks on Thursday during the send-off for the three-time world champions who will be participating in the 2023 Rugby World Cup taking place in France. "As we send you off this

evening to the battlefield, you will be making your own contribution towards national unity, national identity and social cohesion. As you fight to defend the World Cup title in France, remember the millions of South Africans. "Remember where you come from, and the hopes and aspirations you represent. I talk of all the schools and communities

you all represent, who follow your matches and are inspired by you," the Minister said.

He said one of the priorities of government is sports development in schools and at grassroots level.

"Your success has inspired children from around the country to get into sports. Millions of South Africans will cheer you from their homes and fan parks because you represent their aspirations and hope," Kodwa said.

— *SAnews.gov.za*

98 IDs, 105 bank cards, birth certificate found in FS State home



The South African Police Service (SAPS) is calling on the community members who have lost ID books to report to the police station after 98 were found in a home in Seloseshu, Free State, along with 100 bank cards. This is after the Seloseshu Public Order Policing members received intelligence-led information on Friday, 11 August 2023 at about 21:30. "Members followed the information and it took the team to a house in Zone 4, Seloseshu." The members then met a 28-year-old suspect who, upon searching his room, police found 42 smart card IDs, one Lesotho passport, 55 South African-issued ID books, 105 bank cards from different banks and a birth certificate. "Investigations are underway to establish the reason for him having personal documents from different people." The suspect, the police said, has been arrested for unlawfully being in possession of identification documents and for contravening the Immigration Act. "Police are pleading with anyone who might have lost or submitted his ID to the 28-year-old to go to Seloseshu Police Station so they can retrieve their documents." The 28-year-old is expected to appear in the Thaba Nchu Magistrate Court soon. — *SAnews.gov.za*

67 Pakistanis intercepted at OR Tambo Airport

Home Affairs Minister, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, has welcomed the interception of 67 Pakistani nationals at the OR Tambo International Airport in Gauteng after allegedly entering the country without complying with the immigration laws of the country. According to the statement released on Sunday, the Pakistanis were denied entry into South Africa in the early hours of today, 13 August 2023, after they failed the immigration test, which included questions about how long their visas entitled them to be in the country. The department said the 67 Pakistanis with questionable visas were in a flight of 268 passengers that departed for South Africa from Dubai. "This is a result of a sting operation that was put together after observing certain trends that were suspicious and did not make sense.

"They were interviewed by Immigration Officers and they were asked about where they were going and about the purpose of being in South Africa and where they were going to stay given that they were coming here for the first time. They provided conflicting evidence like giving names of non-existent hotels, names of alleged relatives, some of whom did not even exist," said Motsoaledi. The Department of Home Affairs Counter Corruption Branch, the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (Hawks), the State Security Agency and the Border Management Authority (BMA) led the sting operation. The group has since been sent back to their home country at their own cost. "Essentially, these people wanted to come to South Africa but were unable to explain where they were going and for what reason. There is no other way. They have to return to their home country. We can't allow such people to enter the country," Motsoaledi lamented. Motsoaledi noted that some hotels have complained that there is an increase in the number of Pakistanis who book accommodation and then end up not showing up. "This means that the hotels lose money with these dubious bookings and also on other potential visitors who are unable to book because the hotels are supposed to be full." He said the department has been forced to be more vigilant than ever before. "We are extremely worried by this new trend and we have noticed that the newly acquired e-Visa system, which is meant to facilitate easier entry into the country by tourists, is being seriously abused by some nationals. We will never allow this," he added. — *SAnews.gov.za*



ANC bids farewell to the late Fezile Dabi Regional Secretary

The African National Congress has bided farewell to the late Fezile Dabi Regional Secretary Thabo Mabasa.

Mabasa passed away last week after short illness, he was buried this past Sunday in Zamdela Sasolburg.