Ulk'uzenzele

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COVID-19 is dangerous and we must take care

WITH 196 750 coronavirus cases and 3 199 deaths recorded by 5 July, government is again urging citizens to protect themselves and adhere to lockdown regulations.

Allison Cooper

outh Africa is seeing a fast rise in its number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and government expects infections to surge in July and August.

The word surge entails a sudden and big increase in the number of positive cases, as recently seen in Gauteng, where the number of infections has period of time.

Health Minister Zweli Mkhize explains that various factors will contribute to the surge, including people moving around more; people getting together in groups; and people not wearing face masks and not social distancing.

As a result of the increasing number of cases, President Cyril Ramaphosa has extended the employment of 20 000 South African National Defence Force (SANDF) members from 27 June until 30 September.

Apart from helping to maintain law and order and protect the country's borders, the SANDF will work with the National Department of grown to over 63 400 in a short Health in managing the virus through the provision of field hospitals, medical screening and quarantine facilities. It will also support the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs' efforts to maintain and enhance the



living conditions of the pop- virus. Mpumalanga is one of inces with bigger populations ulation. This will include the supply of water.

After visiting Mpumalanga on 3 July, President Ramaphosa said he was pleased with the province's efforts to fight the the least affected provinces. At the time of the President's visit, it had 1478 cases, with 520 recoveries and nine fatalities.

He warned, however, that while more industrialised provhad far more cases, the surge in infections would hit all regions. People must not let their guard down, he said.

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Amazwi okuhlonipha abasebenzi basemkhakheni wezempilo



sibalo sakamuva sabantu asebedlulile emhlabeni ngenxa yegciwane le-corona sesevile kuzi-2000. Phakathi kwalabo abadlulile emhlabeni kubalwa nabasebenzi basemkhakheni wezempilo, ongoti ababenakekela abagulayo, futhi ababeseka baphinde beduduze labo abasezibhedlela beqhelelanisiwe nemindeni yabo.

Ukugula nokudlula emhlabeni kwamadoda nabantu besifazane abenza lo msebenzi ohloniphekile noyigugu kangaka kusigqeme inkamba beyibuza.

Yibo abahamba phambili ekulweni nalolu bhubhane. Basebenza ngaphansi kwezimo ezinencindezi enkulu futhi bathwala umthwalo owukhathaza kakhulu umqondo ngokwazi ukuthi nabo basengcupheni yokutheleleka ngaleli gciwane. Bangamaqhawe namaqhawekazi eqiniso kule mpi yethu yokulwa negciwane le-corona.

Sizethulela isigqoko lezi zakhamuzi zaseNingizimu Afrika ezidela imizi yazo, imindeni kanye nabathandiweyo ziye emitholampilo, ezibhedlela nakwezinye izikhungo zezempilo mihla namalanga. Lapho ezifika zihlinzeke ngemisebenzi yokunakekela ngokwezempilo, ezokusekwa ukuphathwa kwemisebenzi kanye neminye imisebenzi njengokuhlanza nokuhlinzeka ngokudla.

Njengoba zenza imisebenzi yazo ngobungcweti, nathi kumele sizitshathe kanye nemindeni yazo emahlombe ethu. Impilo nokuphepha kwazo kumele kube seqhulwini.

Siyazihlonipha futhi sizihloma uphaphe legwalagwala njengamadoda nabantu besifazane ababonakalisa ukuthi bazimisele ukubeka impilo yabo engcupheni ukuze thina sikwazi ukuphila.

Ukuze benze umsebenzi wabo wobuqhawe nobuqhawekazi badinga ukuthi sibeseke futhi sibavikele ngokubahlinzeka ngezinsizakusebenza zokuzivikela (ama-PPE).

Ngokwesekwa yiSikhwama Sobunye Nobumbano noxhaso oluvela kwizakhamuzi zase-Ningizimu Afrika ezingabantu ngabodwana, amabhizinisi, izinhlangano kanye nabanye ohulumeni, sikwazile ukuthenga izinsizakusebenza zokuzivikela zalaba basebenzi abangamaqhawe namaqhawekazi abahamba phambili kule mpi. Lapho okube nokushoda kwama-PPE, izibhedlela zethu ziyalulungisa lolo daba ngokuphazima kweso ukuze kuqinisekiswe ukuthi ziyatholakala.

Siyazi ukuthi ukutholakala kwama-PPE abasebenzi basemkhakheni wezempilo akusiyo kuphela inselele abasebenzi ababhekene nayo. Ezweni lonke imitholampilo nezibhedlela zibhekene nokushoda kwabasebenzi. Le nkinga siyayilungisa.

Ukweseka umsebenzi owenziwa ngabasebenzi bethu abahamba phambili kule mpi ezweni lonke, sithume oNgqongqoshe namaPhini oNgqongqoshe esifundeni ngasinye ezweni ukuze baye kobona izingqinamba zakulezi zifunda nokusebenzisana nezikhulu zezempilo zasezifundazweni.

Sidinga ukusebenzisana ukuze sivikele ezempilo zabasebenzi abahamba phambili empini kanye nabasebenzi bonkana.

Sekunomsebenzi omkhulu owenziwe izinyunyana

ngokufundisa abasebenzi ngezindlela zokulawula ukuthelelana nokuvikela kanye nezenhlanzeko. Baphinde beseke nomsebenzi woMnyango Wezabasebenzi Nezemisebenzi ekwenzeni umsebenzi wokuhlola ezindaweni zokusebenzela ukuze kuqinisekiswe ukuthi zimisiwe izinhlelo zezempilo nezokuphepha zabasebenzi ababuyela emsebenzini. Iningi lezinyunyana zethu lihlinzeka ngolwazi ngegciwane le-corona kumalungu azo futhi abasebenzi baqhuba imikhankaso yokuqwashisa.

Enye yezinselele eziqubuke ezweni lethu wukubekwa isihlava kwabantu abatholakale benegciwane le-corona. Njengomphakathi, sisonke sinomthwalo wokuqeda isihlava esinamekwe abantu abatheleleke ngegciwane le-corona. Kube nemibiko ephazamisayo ngabantu abahlukumezekile emiphakathini yabo kanye nemiphakathi ebeyibhikisha ilwa nokungeniswa kweziguli ezinegciwane le-corona ezibhedlela nasemitholampilo yasezindaweni abahlala kuzo. Lokhu kumele kuphele nya.

Njengoba sahlangana sakhuthaza ukwamukelwa kwabantu abaphila ne-HIV futhi samelana nokuhlukunyezwa kwabo, kumele sibonakalise ukuqonda, ukwamukela, ukuba nesihawu, ukukhalisana nokuzwelana nalabo abatheleleke ngaleli gciwane kanye nemindeni yabo.

Kuthiwa lokhu kunameka ngesihlava kudalwa wukwesaba ukutheleleka ngegciwane nokungaqondi. Indlela ephuma phambili yokunqoba ukwesaba kwethu ukugula nokutheleleka wukulandela imithetho yezenhlanzeko emisiwe. Ukwesaba ukutheleleka kuyazwakala futhi kuyinto ekhona. Khona manjalo, siyazi ukuthi kumele senzeni ukuze sizivikele thina

uqobo kanye nabanye.

Siyazi ukuthi yini edala igciwane nokuthi singenzani ukuze sizivikele ekuthelelekeni. Siyazi ukuthi kumele siziqhelelanise, sigonqe uma sihlangabezane nalabo abathelelekile nokuthi siye esibhedlela uma sinezimpawu zokugula.

Kumele siqhubeke nokulandela amaqiniso hhayi okungamahlebezi.

Sesadlula isikhathi lapho sasingathi akekho umuntu esimaziyo otheleleke ngegciwane le-corona. Manje abangani bethu, nemindeni, ozakwethu kanye nomakhelwane bethu badinga ukuhawukelwa nokuthi sibazwele kakhulu kunakuqala.

Ezinsukwini, emasontweni nasezinyangeni eziseza, kuzoba nezikhathi esizozithola sixakekile futhi sesaba njengoba sibona isibalo sabantu abathelelekile nabashonayo sinyuka. Kungenzeka ukuthi izinto sezonakele kakhulu, kodwa sinesiqiniseko sokuthi zizoba ngcono. Ososayensi bethu kanye nabeluleki bezempilo basitshela ukuthi isibalo sabantu abathelelekayo sizonyuka njengoba siya esicongweni sesibalo sabathelelekayo. Kodwa sizokwehla nakanjani.

Sihlonipha bonke abasebenzi basemkhakheni wezempilo abadlule emhlabeni ngenxa yokunakekela abagulayo. Njengoba sibakhumbula, masizigcine thina uqobo kanye nezinye izakhamuzi zakithi ziphephile ngokudlala eyethu indima.

Sizolinqoba leli gciwane bese silakha kabusha izwe lethu. Sibuya ebumnyameni obudlula lokhu futhi esabunqoba ngempumelelo.

Masingapheli amandla nesibindi njengoba sibambisene ukusindisa abantu. 🛡

EZAKAMUVA NGE-COVID-19

Umlimi omncane uthola uxhaso lwe-COVID-19

UMLIMI osafufusa waseMpumalanga Kapa ungomunye wabahlomule kuXhasomali Lukahulumeni Lwegciwane le-corona.

Silusapho Nyanda

■Nomagcinandile Suduka (oneminyaka engama-27) okhulisa ifa lomndeni wakhe kanye nomcebo ngokutshala izimali zakhe kwezolimo.

Umnikazi we- 4 U and 4 Me Primary Cooperative esigodini sase-Mooiplaas uthole ukuxhaswa esikhwameni soMnyango Wezolimo, Ukuguqulwa komhlaba noku-Thuthukiswa Kwezindawo Zasemakhaya segciwane le-Corona (i-COVID-19) ngepulazi lakhe lamaqanda, imfuyo kanye nezitshalo.

Umnyango usukhiphe isigidigidi esi-R1.2 samavawusha kubalimi abawadingayo.

USuduka uthi amavawusha akhe azomsiza ukukhulisa umkhiqizo wakhe wamaqa-



UNomagcinandile Suduka uguqule ipulazi elihlala umndeni wakhe laba indawo yebhizinisi elincane

nda ebhizinisini lakhe. "Ngithole amavawusha amathathu ayisamba esiyizi-R19 000. Ivawusha yezi-R12 000 yokuthenga izinkukhu zamaqanda eziyi-100,

ivawusha yezi-R6 500 yokuthenga ukudla kwezinkukhu kanye nevawusha yama-R500 yokuthenga imithi."

Waqala ipulazi lokukhiqiza

amaqanda ngokuphakela ni wakhe ngaleso sikhathi izinkukhu zomndeni wakhe ukudla kokukhulisa izinkukhu, okwenza ukuthi zikhiqize amaqanda ngaphandle kokukhwelana. Izinkukhu zakhe ezingama-50 manje sezikhiqiza amaqanda angama-50 ngosuku, akawadayisa njalo ngeviki.

USuduka, ophinde afuye izimbuzi ezingama-73, izimvu ezingama-25 nezinkomo ezingama-25, waqala ukuba umlimi ngonyaka wezi-2015 emva kokuthola isitifiketi sezifundo ze-Public Management sakwa-N6 esikhungweni semfundo ephakeme e-Ikhala Training and Vocational Education and Training College. Emva kokubona ukuthi awekho amathuba amaningi omsebenzi, wanquma ukuthatha ipulazi elalihlala umndewaliguqula laba ibhizinisi elingenisa imali.

USuduka uthi: "Sikhule silima, ngakho-ke emva kokuthola iziqu nganquma ukuthi ngilime kunokufuna umsebenzi."

Lokhu kutshengisa ukuba isingumo esihle kakhulu, njengoba esekhulise izimbuzi nezinkomo eziningi.

Ipulazi likaSuduka elingamahektha ayisithupha lezitshalo likhiqiza ummbila, amazambane, uphizi nobhontshisi. Ummbila utshalwe kumahektha amane, amazambane kwelilodwa bese uphizi nobhontshisi utshalwe kwihektha lokugcina. USuduka usefunde lukhulu ku-CO-VID-19, ikakhulukazi ukuthi amathuluzi ahamba phambili yizandla zakhe kanye nokusebenza kanzima. 🛈

Grow your own food and save money

Silusapho Nyanda

gardener in Kwa-Zulu-Natal has proven to be a smart businessman, selling his home-grown produce to put money in is his pocket. This is thanks to the One Home, One Garden and Fruit Tree programme aimed for Kwa-Zulu-Natal residents.

Muziwakhe Nsele (42) is a popular man in Hlathini, a village near Melmoth where he lives and sells vegetables such as beans, cabbage and potatoes.

Nsele's business grew in leaps and bounds following the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19), with people buying from him rather than travelling

to the shops.

With his profit, Nsele has bought six goats and plans to expand his agriculture business. "I will also be investing in layers and broiler chickens to expand my income streams through the sale of eggs and whole chickens," Nsele says.

The father of six says his business received a boost from the One Home, One Garden and Fruit Tree programme run by the province's Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD).

The programme encourages people to start gardening at their homes as a means of fighting poverty and Nsele received seeds, fertiliser and advice from DARD.



DARD MEC Bongiwe Sithole-Moloi says the One Home, One Garden and Fruit Tree programme assists families that are suffering because of COVID-19. She says: "The programme

remains a crucial seed for a sustainable rural economy and with specific interventions and support from DARD, it can reduce and eliminate poverty through subsistence farming." To be part of the programme, visit the office of DARD at your local municipality. The contact details of the DARD offices can be found on the department's website www.kzndard.gov.za. Alternatively, call the department at 033 355 9100.

Tips on how to start a garden:

- Make sure you know which plants your soil will support.
- Ready your garden by first ploughing the land more than once without planting.
- Add fertiliser.
- Remove all weeds.

EZAKAMUVA NGE-COVID-19

Ukwakha impilo engcono

usukela esahlupheka esigodini saKwaNongoma, KwaZulu Natali, uSilondiwe Magwaza oneminyaka engama-23 ubudala osenqobe izingqinamba eziningi ukuze afezekise iphupho lakhe lokuphatha kwezokwakha.

Ukukhula ezungezwe ingqalasizinda ebhedayo kwagqugquzela uMagwaza ukuhlola izindlela ezintsha zokufukula umphakathi wakhe. Njengamanje uyilungu lokuqala ngqa emndenini wakhe elineziqu.

UMagwaza ugogode eNyuvesi yase-Witwatersrand ngowezi-2019, wathola iziqu ezifundweni zokwakha.

"KwaNongoma kunengqalasizinda ebhedayo kakhulu futhi ukuhlinzekwa ngayo kwakubonakala kuza ngonyawo lonwabu. Ngokubuka zonke izingqinamba ezazibhekene nedolobha lakithi, ngagqugquzeleka ukwenza utho oluhlobene nezokwakha

ukuze ngibe ngomunye wabantu abaguqula isimo leso," ubeke kanjalo.

Ukuthola iziqu zakhe kwakungelula neze. UMagwaza uthi wakuthola kunzima kakhulu ukubhekana ngqo nezifundo zakhe ngenxa yokukhathazeka kwakhe ngoxhasomali lokufunda. Kwabe, sekungenelela Omele Ukwesekwa Ngengqalasizinda Kumasipala (i-MISA) ukuze afake isandla.

"Ngangihleli ngikhathazekile kakhulu ngoxhasomali njengoba ngiphuma ekhaya elintulayo. Kwaze kwaba ngunyaka wezi-2018, ngesikhathi ngithola umfundaze ophuma ku-MI-SA. Lokhu kwangisiza ukuphothula iziqu zami ngaphandle kokukhathazeka okunye. Yonke into yayikhokheliwe, okwakumele nje ngikwenze kwakungukubhekana ngqo nezifundo zami," ubeke kanjalo.

UMagwaza ungomunye wabafundi abangamakhulu



Njengowokuqala othwale iziqu emndenini wakhe, uSilondiwe Magwaza ubonga i-MISA.

abedlula ezinhlelweni zokuthuthukiswa kwentsha minyaka yonke. Izinhlelo zihlinzeka ngoxhasomali nokusekela futhi lusiza abafundi ukuthi bathole imisebenzi uma sebegogodile.

"Bengiwulinde ngamehlo abomvu umgubho wethu wokuthwala iziqu. Bewuzosho lukhulu ngenxa yokuthi bengizoba ngowokuqala ngqa othwala iziqu emndenini wami. Ngisenethemba lokuthi sizoba nomcimbi wokuthwala iziqu, kodwa lokhu kungenzeka kungenzeki ngenxa yobhubhane lwegciwane le-corona," ubeke kanjalo.

Imboni yezokwakha igcwele

kakhulu amadoda.

"Esikhathini esiningi, abantu besifazane benziwa bazizwe bengelutho ngenxa yokuthi ikhono labo lokuletha uguquko luyangatshazwa. Ngezinye izikhathi bashaywa indiva uma bekhuluma.

"Ngaqhubeka ngakhetha ezokuphatha kwezokwakha ngenxa yokuthi ngikholwa ukuthi nginamandla okuguqula imboni futhi ngiyenze ngcono lapho kunesidingo. Sengibone abesifazane kule mboni bekhuphukela ezikhundleni eziphezulu futhi beba nomthelela. Nami ngiyakholwa ukuthi ngingaphumelela," ubeke kanjalo.

Imifundaze yakwa-MISA ikhangiswa ku www.misa.gov.za kusuka kwinyanga kaMandulo, ku-Twitter @MISA_CoGTA naku- Instagram @ MISA_CoGTA.

Don't share fake news!

Allison Cooper

elisiwe Dlamini (30), a researcher at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), says it's important to verify stories from social media, especial-

ly those about the coronavirus (COV-ID-19), before sharing them.

"Some young people are becoming ringleaders of the spread of false information. This has the potential to create panic," she says.

Since the outbreak of COV-ID-19, the CSIR has created a dashboard to assist government and health institutions

to track the spread of misinformation, in order to avoid unnecessary public panic. The dashboard categorises information as misinformation (misleading content),

disinformation (information that is untrue and mal-information (hate speech).

Dlamini is part of the team that does research and also helps categorise information in the dashboard.

A data dashboard is an information management tool or website that tracks, analyses and displays information to monitor the performance of a business or department.

According to Dlamini, social media platforms become a great danger when used to share false information.

"Whether it's with the intention to harm or not, it creates social conflict, distracts people from the real issues and undermines government's, public authorities' and other organisations' efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 and maintain social order."

She says there are numerous ways to identify fake news, including reading the whole story and not just the heading, being critical of everything you read and examining the source of the story.

"Reporting fake news is necessary, as it will help to take down fake news stories from multiple platforms," says Dlamini.

A journey to research

Dlamini joined the CSIR in 2014, when she was awarded a studentship to pursue her MSc Computer Science degree. "It was a foot in the door for me and has since afforded me great opportunities," she says.

She was also awarded a grant from the Young Researcher's Establishment Fund, which she sites as a wonderful opportunity in her career.

Born in Pinetown, Kwa-Zulu-Natal, Dlamini says women hoping to follow in her footsteps need to be interested in and have a passion for research.

To become a researcher, learners need to take maths and science in high school. "After school I studied computer science and information systems and technology, which laid a strong foundation for me," says Dlamini, who also holds a BcomHon Information Systems and Technology degree.

She didn't always know she wanted to be a researcher. "When I joined the CSIR, I was so amazed by the multi-disciplinary research that is done to make a difference in our country," she says.

This Women's Day, Dlamini says if there was ever a time for women to be bold and do everything they have ever wished to do, it is now. "We need to support each other and unite and always remember to celebrate each other. This alone will propel us."

You can report fake news by emailing fakenewsalert@dtps.gov.za, sending a WhatsApp to 067 966 4015 or on the website www.real411. org.

Passionate researcher at the CSIR, Nelisiwe Dlamini, warns South Africans, especially the youth, not to share fake news because it creates panic especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.