



# Employment and Labour Deputy Minister, Sibiya and Home Affairs Deputy Minister, Nzuzi, conduct a multi-disciplinary inspection in Mossel Bay

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## Employment and Labour Deputy Minister, Sibiyi and Home Affairs Deputy Minister, Nzuzi, conduct a multi-disciplinary inspection in Mossel Bay

Fifteen illegal immigrants were arrested in the lavish Pinnacle Point Golf Estate in Mossel Bay, a town overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. The site has multiple residential homes were under construction.

Employment and Labour Deputy Minister, Jomo Sibiyi and Home Affairs Deputy Minister, Njabulo Nzuzi, last week on 03 June 2026, led a joint multi-disciplinary high-impact inspection in the Mossel Bay area, focusing on the construction sector to verify contractors' compliance with the labour laws and immigration legislation.

The operation included officials from the Department of Employment and Labour, Department of Home Affairs, and Border Management Authority, accompanied by the South African Police Services and Mossel Bay metro police.

### What prompted the inspection?

According to the Department of Employment and Labour Inspection and Enforcement Services (IES) branch, the inspections were conducted at the construction site, where it was reported that vulnerable workers faced:

- Low wages,
- On the site, there were significant safety risks

and,

- The employment of undocumented foreign nationals.

IES' Western Cape Acting Provincial Chief Inspector (PCI), Ms Fezeka Ngalo, said the focus of the inspections was on the Basic Conditions of Employment Act (BCEA), the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act, and Audits

(Unemployment Insurance; and Compensation for occupational injuries and diseases act). Ms Ngalo said of the two employers inspected, one employer was found to have contravened the OHS and was served with an enforcement notice to fix the situation within 60 days.

She said there were also violations of BCEA with employees not provided with contracts and payslips, not registered with the unemployment insurance and occupational injuries and disease acts.

Ms Ngalo said the overall goal of the project by the 56-member strong team from various departments was to establish compliance with labour legislation through IES inspections and address non-compliance with labour legislation through enforcement notices in the sector, which is a high-risk sector.

According to IES, compliance levels remain low in the construction sector, and it will receive a special focus in the year under review. The branch plans to conduct advocacy sessions to ensure that employers are aware of what is required to improve the overall compliance with the applicable legislation within their sector and organisations.

IES described in its report, that the operation was successful with productive, informative engagements between inspectors, employers, and employees.

"A joint advocacy session with DHA is needed to capacitate contractors on the requirements and application of the South African laws to enable them (contractors) to improve their understanding of the law and the consequences of contravening the South African laws," said IES.

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**A joint multi-disciplinary inspection led by Employment and Labour Deputy Minister, Jomo Sibiya, and Home Affairs Deputy Minister, Njabulo Nzuza, resulted in the arrest of 15 undocumented foreign nationals at a construction site within the Pinnacle Point Golf Estate in Mossel Bay. The operation, conducted on 3 June 2026, revealed several labour law and occupational health and safety violations, including inadequate worker protections, lack of employment contracts, failure to register employees for statutory benefits, and unsafe working conditions. The inspection forms part of government’s intensified efforts to promote compliance with labour and immigration legislation, protect vulnerable workers, and combat unlawful practices within the construction sector.**”



**Home Affairs Deputy Minister, Nzuza, promises another intensive inspection in the Mossel Bay and surrounding areas**

Home Affairs Deputy Minister, Njabulo Nzuza, has promised that the department will be interested in a follow-up intensive inspection of the area of Mossel Bay.

Deputy Minister Nzuza said this following a meeting he and Employment and Labour Deputy Minister, Jomo Sibiya, held with the community leaders of the volatile area of KwaNonqaba near Mossel Bay at Siyanithanda Disabled Child Centre.

The meeting followed recent clashes, which erupted in Kwanonqaba township in Mossel Bay, resulting in the death of Mozambican nationals. The tension was reported to have been driven by high unemployment

and the allegations of the contraventions of South African laws, including immigration.

During the tense meeting, community leaders raised concerns about the unbecoming conduct of government officials who were not of assistance despite numerous complaints, the growing number of illegal foreign nationals, and the increase in criminality in the area.

Deputy Minister Sibiya said the Department was in the process of tabling the Employment Services (ES) Act to deal with lawlessness in the labour market. Deputy Minister Nzuza promised the community of KwaNonqaba that their concerns would be responded to.

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