



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PREPARATIONS ON TRACK FOR MULTI-PLANTING SEASON PROGRAMME - MEC KAMADLOPHA-MTHETHWA

MAYVILLE

The MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development in KwaZulu-Natal, Hon. Thembeni KaMadlopha-Mthethwa, says all preparations for the upcoming Multi-Planting Season programme are on track.

The programme follows the Department's recent call for farmers to apply for support through either mechanisation (ploughing, discing, planting and chemical application) or production inputs (fertiliser, grain seeds and seedlings). The launch is scheduled for later this month.

MEC KaMadlopha-Mthethwa was speaking on the sidelines of the KwaZulu-Natal Premier's Coordinating Forum held at the Archie Gumede Conference Centre in Mayville, Durban. The Forum, which brought together different spheres of government, civil society and non-governmental organisations, is deliberating on service delivery in the form of electricity, water, road network and solutions to challenges facing communities, ranging from crime and social ills to poverty.

Premier Hon. Thamsanqa Ntuli said he is hopeful that the Multi-Planting Season programme will contribute to job creation, particularly for young people. The national unemployment rate stands at 33.6 percent while KwaZulu-Natal is 32.5 percent in the second quarter of 2026.

"There is growing concern regarding the unemployment rate from the stats of the financial year performances, where KwaZulu-Natal did not perform well. With the forthcoming Multi-Planting Season, the MEC and I are hopeful for job creation initiatives when the programme gets underway," said Premier Ntuli.

MEC KaMadlopha-Mthethwa echoed the Premier's sentiments, saying the agricultural sector has proven resilient in the face of challenging economic conditions.

"The sector has proven to be resilient over the years, even during the most challenging economic times, and has continued to sustain livelihoods and provide jobs," said MEC KaMadlopha-Mthethwa.

Meanwhile, the date and venue for the Multi-Planting Season launch will be communicated in due course.

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