

**MEDIA RELEASE** Day of Action against GEMS: PSA committed to challenging GEMS monopoly

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) extends appreciation to all members, supporters, beneficiaries, and broader community partners who came out in remarkable numbers to support the Day of Action against the Government Employees' Medical Scheme (GEMS) across the country on 21 February 2026.

The PSA secured members' income by not subjecting them to the 'no-work, no-pay' rule by ensuring that the day of action was on a Saturday, rather than on a work day. The PSA recognises the commitment, unity, and determination displayed by everyone who joined the events. This presence affirmed the collective strength of public servants and demonstrated the power of solidarity in the face of challenges affecting workers nationwide. The strong turnout reflects the commitment of public-sector employees to protecting their rights, advancing fair labour practices, and ensuring that the well-being of workers remains a national priority.

The PSA is encouraged by the energy, discipline, and unity shown throughout these actions. The PSA has special appreciation for the Union's members who continue to stand firm under difficult conditions, supporters, partners, and beneficiaries, whose encouragement and participation strengthen the Union's mandate.

The PSA is committed to engaging in all necessary processes to protect the interests of public-sector employees and to ensure that concerns raised during the Day of Action are addressed meaningfully. The weekend's well-supported event sends the clear message that when workers unite, their voice cannot be ignored.

GEMS has been given seven days to respond to labour's demands. The PSA is committed to engaging on this matter and will remain undeterred, as legal options are being explored to challenge the monopoly of GEMS. This is not the end of the action to challenge the unreasonable rise in costs of GEMS. The PSA is committed to operating collectively with other unions to defeat GEMS.

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