

FOR PSA MEMBERS: LIMPOPO SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY
(SASSA)

05-06-2020

Poor Working Conditions at Various Offices

Leeuwfontein Office

The PSA was alerted by concerned and frustrated members about the horrible working conditions, they are exposed to in that the office did not have water for the past two days. It must be noted that water is critical for the practice of hygiene, as it affects the toilets and regular washing of hands as required during the time of COVID-19 pandemic. The lack of water exposes members to high risk of being infected by the virus. According to report received by the PSA, the members were scared and intimidated to work in unconducive environment, which does not comply with safety regulations. Upon engagement with the employer, the manager conceded that there is problem with running water however the “enviro loo” toilets were arranged as temporary measure for staff, whilst the matter is being addressed. The problem was attributed to the dysfunctional pressure pump, which causes the trapping of electricity hence the Department of Public Works was engaged. Water is being sourced from nearest departments and Sekhukhune Municipality, to mitigate the shortage and health risks. The provincial head has been alerted of the problem in pursuit of permanent solution.

Giyani Office

The COVID-19 OHS/Health and Safety Committee has not been established and the employer is not consulting labour, regarding safety measures to be implemented in the workplace to contain the spread of COVID-19. The phase in approach for return to work is not considered, further, the employees are sent to monitor paypoints where more than 1000 beneficiaries converge wherein social distancing is impossible to observe. The manager was approached and did not do anything hence the matter was escalated to the district level, should the matter remain unresolved, the PSA would approach the Department of Employment and Labour to conduct an inspection at the workplace. Members are advised that their lives are of utmost important hence they should exercise caution when executing their duties, if your life is threatened, bring the same to the attention of the employer.

Members will be kept abreast of further development.

GENERAL MANAGER