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MEC for public works, roads and transport Thulasizwe Thomo.

Bridget Mpande

MOOIPLAAS - More than 120 learners received Shova Kalula bicycles during an event held at Chief Jerry Secondary School on Thursday.

The Shova Kalula Bicycle Programme is a national initiative aimed at assisting learners, particularly those in remote and rural areas who walk long distances to school daily.

By providing a safe, affordable, and sustainable mode of transport, the programme enhances school attendance and performance while supporting the government's broader goal of promoting non-motorised transport.

The Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport, in partnership with the Department of Education, concluded the 2025 October Transport Month Programme by donating these Shova Kalula bicycles to learners from various schools within the Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality.

The beneficiary schools include: Chief Jerry Nkosi Secondary School with 50 bicycles, Ebuhleni Primary School with 34, Inkaba Primary School with 11 and Father Charles Primary School with 27 bicycles.

Leading the event were the MEC for public works, roads and transport, Thulasizwe Thomo, and the MEC for education, Lindi Masina, who reaffirmed the government's commitment to empowering rural learners through improved mobility and access to education.



The Shova Kalula bicycles. **Photos: Supplied/DPWRT**

Thomo urged the learners to take care of the bicycles and use them responsibly.

"These bicycles are meant to make your journey to school safer and easier. We don't want to see you racing on the roads, it's dangerous. As the government, we have done our part by bringing a solution to improve your access to education; now we expect a 100% pass rate from you," he said.

Thomo further emphasised that the donation represents more than just transport,

it symbolises opportunity, empowerment, and the government's dedication to building a connected and educated generation.

As the province wraps up Transport Month, the department celebrates the strides made in promoting safer, more accessible, and sustainable transport for all citizens.

The Mooiplaas event stands as a fitting conclusion to a month that highlighted the role of transport in transforming lives and uplifting communities across Mpumalanga.

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