

#### NAMRA

NamRA to detain current and future goods over unpaid customs duties

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#### OPERATIONS

Trustco Bank winds up operations, transfers unclaimed deposits

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#### APPOINTMENT

NAMCOL appoints Dr. Ngepathimo Kadhila as CEO

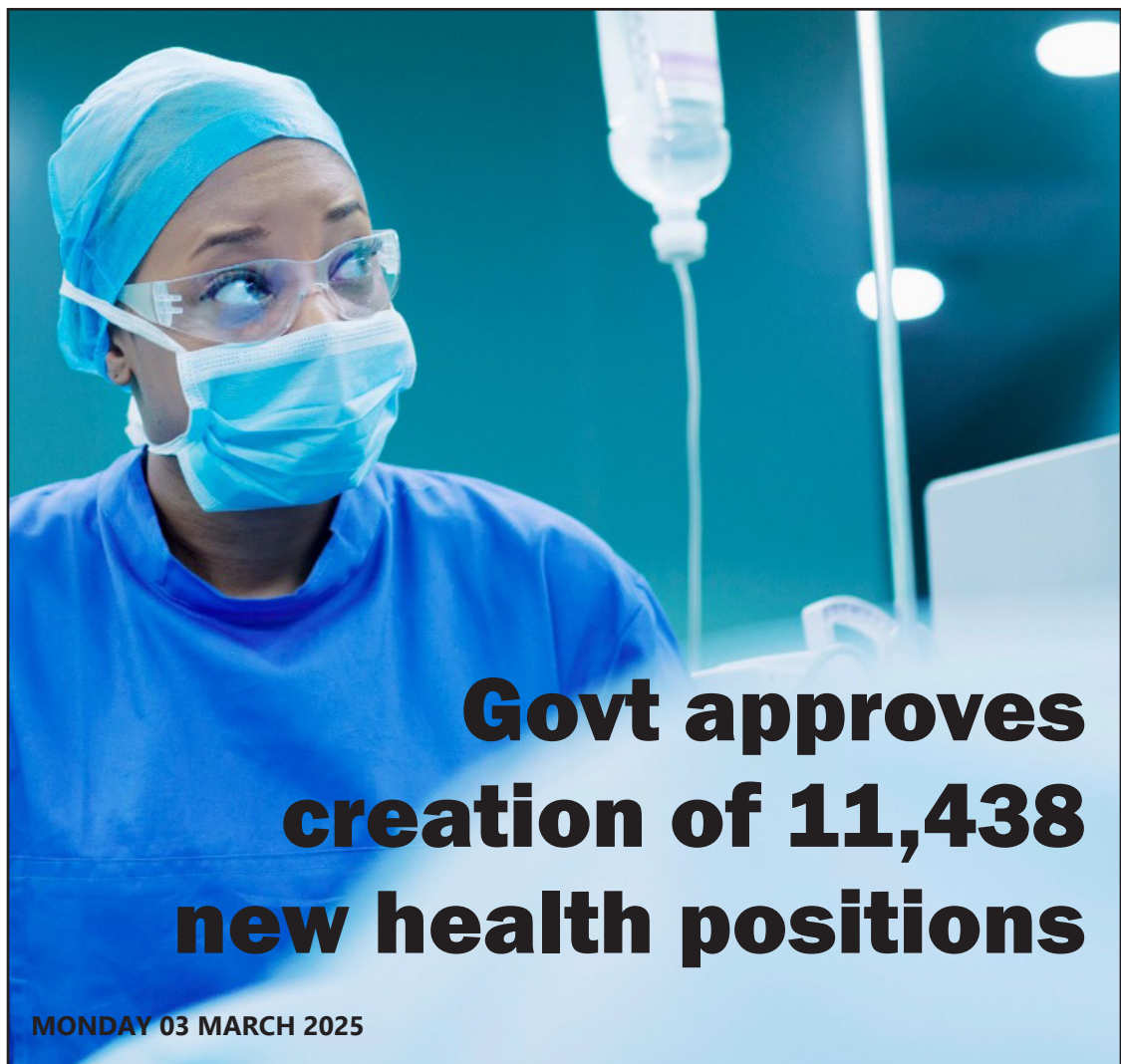
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THE

# BR/EF

News Worth Knowing



## Govt approves creation of 11,438 new health positions

MONDAY 03 MARCH 2025

## MAIN STORY



## Govt approves creation of 11,438 new health positions

**T**he government has approved the creation of 11,438 new positions within the Ministry of Health and Social Services aimed at strengthening healthcare delivery across the country.

Speaking at the launch of its Customer Service Charter on Monday, the Minister of Health and Social Services, Kalumbi Shangula, said the expansion will improve staffing at health centres and district hospitals, reducing patient referrals to distant facilities and ensuring accessible,

high-quality healthcare.

“Recently, the Ministry received approval

### Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
  - \* 16 April 2025
  - \* 18 June 2025
  - \* 13 August 2025
  - \* 15 October 2025
  - \* 3 December 2025

from the Office of the Prime Minister to create 11,438 new positions on its staff establishment. This landmark step will significantly enhance our capacity to fill critical positions and further enhance service delivery,” he said.

He further explained that in the past month, 80 new doctors were deployed to Oshakati and Katutura Intermediate Hospitals, while additional nurses and pharmacists have been recruited nationwide.

The newly created positions will further support these efforts, ensuring that every health facility, from health posts to referral hospitals, has adequate staffing.

The ministry is actively working to strengthen healthcare infrastructure, with a focus on establishing Intensive Care Units (ICUs) in all 34 districts, expanding dialysis services, and establishing health posts in rural areas. These developments are part of a five-year plan to reinforce key healthcare components, including human resources, infrastructure, medical technology and pharmaceutical supply chains.

“These include the establishment of Intensive Care Units at all 34 District Hospitals, which is underway; the newly established Health Posts, which are part of our strategy to improve primary healthcare, of which 17 of them have been commissioned, mainly in rural areas; the establishment of dialysis services at Katutura, Oshakati and Rundu Intermediate Hospitals as well as Katima Mulilo, Keetmanshoop, Otjiwarongo and Walvis Bay District Hospitals,” Shangula

said.

Shangula also said in recent years, the Ministry has worked closely with development partners to modernise its health workforce management.

The Integrated Human Resources Information System has improved data accuracy and operational efficiency, enabling better workforce planning and deployment.

The recently enacted Health Professions Act (Act No. 13 of 2024) is set to further regulate and optimise healthcare staffing.

“The system produces the Annual Health Workforce Status Report, with comprehensive data that can be used to better address gaps, forecast needs and align our human resources management with the demands of a dynamic healthcare environment,” he said.

Despite progress, Shangula said challenges remain, particularly in addressing work attitudes and ensuring consistent service quality.

The Customer Service Charter serves as a tool to promote professionalism and reinforce values such as transparency, accountability and patient-centred care.

All healthcare staff are expected to uphold these standards, while patients are encouraged to hold the ministry accountable for the services they receive.

“By adhering to the values and commitments encapsulated in the Charter, we foster an environment of accountability and high-quality service delivery. We can ensure that citizens receive the care they are entitled to at all times,” he said.

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## The Capricorn Foundation Celebrates Five Years of Positive Change in Namibia

We are excited to celebrate a remarkable milestone of five years of impactful community investment in Namibia. Since February 2020, the Capricorn Foundation has been dedicated to driving positive change by investing N\$37.4 million into 100 projects and programmes that advance economic development, enhance education, promote sustainability, improve health, and support vulnerable communities. With a steadfast commitment to doing the right things for the right reasons and through active collaboration with our donors and partners, we believe that, together, we can create a brighter future for everyone.



### Economic Advancement

**N\$5.5**  
million invested

Unlocking potential by empowering individuals and entrepreneurs:

- 80 individuals received business mentorship and coaching
- 600 rural artisans trained in handicrafts and provided with market access
- 2,700 individuals trained in hospitality and other vocational courses
- 2 Food Waste Challenge winners awarded N\$100,000 each to expand their businesses
- 10 trainees employed under the Emerging Bankers Programme in Bank Windhoek



### Education

**N\$15.4**  
million invested

Provided access to quality education by:

- Upgrading 48 Early Childhood Development centres in rural areas
- Supplying school materials and curriculum support for 300,000 learners
- Providing study solar lights for 2,600 learners
- Providing training for 1,600 teachers and monitors
- Construction of the #BeFree STEM centre
- Donating school shoes and uniforms to 1340 learners



### Health

**N\$4.2**  
million invested

Improved access to quality healthcare:

- Co-funding a cardiography machine and crucial medical supplies to the Namibian Children's Heart Trust
- N\$1.5 million towards medical oxygen and equipment for COVID-19
- Four slit lamps donated to the Ministry of Health Eye Clinic



### Vulnerability Initiatives

**N\$9.2**  
million invested

Support towards marginalised and at-risk communities:

- 500,000 meals provided to vulnerable communities
- 200 nutrition and health facilitators trained
- Enhancing care facilities for orphans at Happyland Safe Haven
- Renovation at Hope Village in Windhoek
- 40 orphans provided daily with food and basic necessities
- Over 2000 victims of gender-based violence, abuse and neglect provided with food and counselling



### Sustainability

**N\$3.1**  
million invested

Sustaining livelihoods through:

- Rehabilitation of a borehole and a solar water pump for 35 marginalised San households
- Establishing 180 sustainable gardens
- 346 individuals received horticulture training
- Established a waste management and recycling system in Maltahöhe

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# Namibia's telecom sector generates over N\$800 million in data revenue

The Namibian telecommunications sector recorded data revenue exceeding N\$800 million in the third quarter of 2024, according to the latest Quarterly Statistics Bulletin from the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN).

The report, covering the period from October 1 to December 31, 2024, highlights that data-driven services remained the primary revenue generator. However, SMS and voice revenues fluctuated, with a decline recorded in the fourth quarter of the year.

CRAN's Executive for Communication and Consumer Relations, Mufaro Nesongano, noted that total mobile outgoing minutes increased by 4%, marking a slowdown from the 8% growth recorded in the previous quarter.

"Meanwhile, SMS volumes decreased by 6%, marking a reversal from the previous upward trend. In contrast, mobile data consumption surged by 9%, indicating a shift among consumers towards data-driven communication instead of traditional SMS," Nesongano said.

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector maintained its growth momentum, recording a 6% increase in revenue. Overall, licensees generated



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N\$1.6 billion in revenue, with 70% allocated to operating expenses.

The report further details key market metrics, including subscriber identity module (SIM) usage for internet access, fixed internet subscriptions, mobile outgoing minutes, ICT revenue, pay-TV subscriptions, and postal box usage.

Nesongano stated that the total number of active SIM cards increased by 3%, mainly due to slight growth in the prepaid sector.

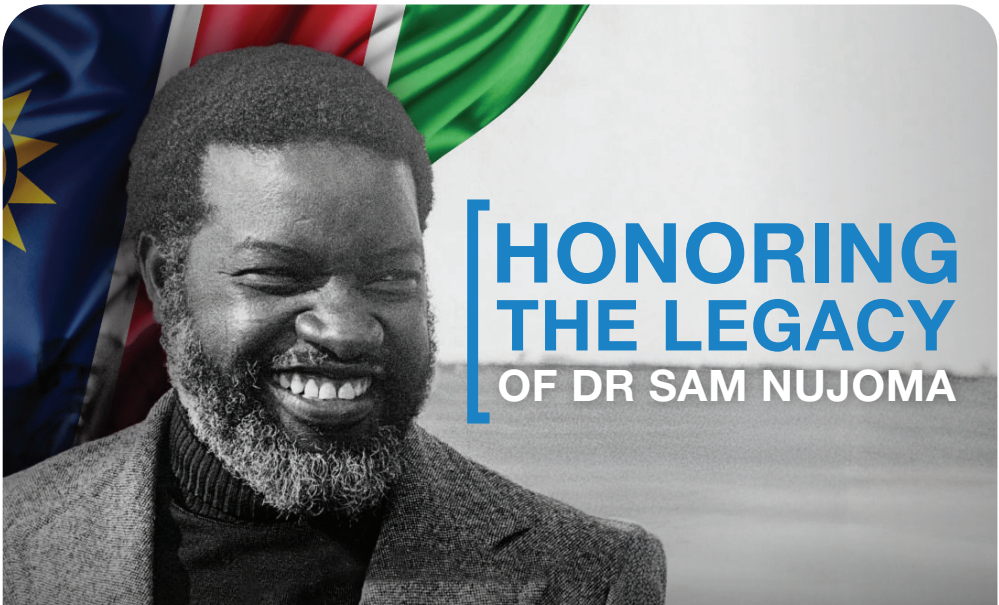
"The total number of active SIM cards increased by 3%, mainly due to slight growth in the prepaid sector. However, despite this overall increase, mobile broadband usage via mobile phones declined by 3%, resulting in a decrease in the percentage of SIM cards used for internet access from 64% to 60%," he said.

Additionally, mobile broadband usage through dongles and routers dropped by 17%,

suggesting a shift away from these devices. In contrast, fixed internet subscriptions rose by 5%, driven by increased satellite/VSAT subscriptions following the market entry of Satelio Telecommunications, which recently obtained a telecommunications service license.

Consumer demand for faster internet services also led to a 9% rise in Fibre-to-the-x (FTTx) and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) subscriptions.

In the broadcasting sector, the pay-TV industry saw an 11% decline in subscriptions in the fourth quarter of 2024, attributed to rising subscription fees and increasing competition from streaming services such as Netflix. However, overall revenue in the broadcasting sector remained stable due to a 2% increase in advertising revenue, bringing advertising's share of total revenue to 11%, up from 9% in previous quarters.



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# NamRA to detain current and future goods over unpaid customs duties

**T**he Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRA) has announced that it will detain goods belonging to importers who fail to settle their customs duties, as part of enhanced enforcement of the Customs and Excise Act, 1998 (Act No. 20 of 1998).

This measure will take effect from March 1, 2025, and is aimed at improving tax compliance and revenue collection.

NamRA Commissioner Sam Shivute emphasized the importance of compliance, stating, “Any outstanding debt due to the State will render all goods in Customs and Excise Warehouses, or under the Commissioner’s control ... subject to detention.”

This means that goods stored in customs warehouses, rebate storerooms, or under the importer’s control can be seized until the full payment of duties and taxes is made.

Shivute further warned that importers with overdue payments will face further consequences, including the detention of

their future shipments.

“Where the importer fails to settle the outstanding duties and taxes, their future consignments will be detained until the debt is paid fully,” he stated.

The agency also emphasized that agents representing shipping companies, airlines, or container operators will be held responsible for ensuring all customs duties and penalties are settled on behalf of their principals. “An agent appointed under section 108(1) by any master, container operator, or pilot ... shall be liable for fulfilling all obligations in relation to the matter at hand. This includes the payment of duty and charges imposed by this Act ... as well as any penalties or forfeitures that may be incurred,” said Shivute.

With the new enforcement measures in place, importers and agents are urged to clear all outstanding debts before March 2025 to avoid shipment delays and financial penalties.

## Market ups and downs?

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## MTC expands fibre transmission network to 2,738 km

**M**obile Telecommunications Company (MTC) has expanded its fibre transmission network to 2,738 km, strengthening its backbone infrastructure to support future capacity expansion and reduce dependency

risks.

The network expansion according to telco, enhances MTC's ability to deliver quality and reliable fibre services to Windhoek and coastal areas, addressing the growing demand for fixed



internet connectivity among businesses and households.

“The ability to continue meeting the market’s demands requires that we maintain, expand, and optimize our network infrastructure. This allows for seamless delivery of services to our customers,” Ekanjio said. “We continue to make inroads with our strategy to diversify into enterprise ICT markets, including IoT and fixed connectivity such as fibre, to achieve our strategic growth and facilitate an inclusive digital economy,” MTC’s Chief Brand, Marketing, Communications, and Sustainability Officer, Tim Ekanjio said.

He highlighted the significance of long-term infrastructure investment for the telecommunications sector.

“Investing in and having sustainable infrastructure is a material matter for a telco like us. Hence, the continued investment in capital infrastructure projects such as

the rollout of fibre. Last year alone, we deployed 1,377 km of fibre, bringing our fibre transmission network to 2,738 km,” Ekanjio said.

“This deployment will continue in 2025 as part of our long-term vision and strategy to drive an inclusive digital economy.”

Fibre internet technology provides higher bandwidth, enabling high-speed data transmission with minimal downtime. It offers seamless connectivity for users, supporting concurrent file downloads and uploads without interruptions. The technology utilizes light and durable materials that are less susceptible to environmental factors, ensuring reliable and efficient service delivery.

MTC’s ongoing fibre expansion aligns with its broader goal of enhancing digital infrastructure and connectivity across Namibia.



## DEEPEST CONDOLENCES

**Tribute to H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma**  
**From ANIREP Limited**

ANIREP Limited mourns the passing of H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma, Namibia's Founding Father, Commander-in-Chief, and first President—a visionary leader whose legacy continues to illuminate our nation's path.

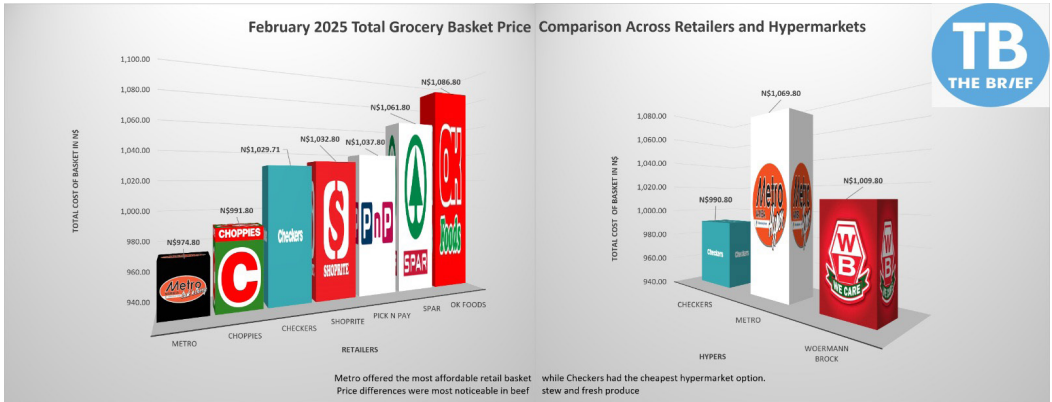
Dr. Nujoma was not only a champion of freedom but also a steadfast advocate for gender equality, declaring, “It is the freedom of women that will determine the true liberation of our nations.” We honour his vision by ensuring that all voices contribute to Namibia's progress, giving his words meaning through our dedication, duty, and unwavering support for inclusivity.

His passing reinforces our responsibility—to power Namibia's development sustainably and equitably. As we welcome Namibia's first female President, we remain committed to a future where courage, unity, and inclusivity drive national growth and prosperity. As we condole we must internalize and invoke his visionary and wise counsel that, “A people united, striving to achieve a common good for all the members of society, will always emerge victorious.” May we embody this spirit as we carry his legacy forward.

We extend our deepest condolences to the Nujoma family, especially the First First Lady, Meekulu Kovambo Nujoma, and extend our thoughts and prayers to the Namibia nation during this time of bereavement for this most illustrious son of the African soil. May his indomitable soul rest in eternal peace.

**Aluta Continua!**





## Metro and Checkers offer lowest retail and hypermarket prices in Windhoek for February

**M**etro emerged as the most affordable supermarket option among the seven retail stores surveyed by The Brief in February 2025, with an overall basket cost of N\$974.80.

This marks a shift from January 2025, when Choppies had the most budget-friendly basket. Metro's affordability was driven by lower prices on key products such as 2L Nola Cooking Oil (N\$82.99), beef stew per kilogram (N\$89.99), and onions per kilogram (N\$18.99).

### Retail Store Comparisons

1. Metro recorded the most affordable basket at N\$974.80, offering competitive pricing across key products, making it the best choice for budget-conscious consumers.

2. Choppies followed closely with

a basket price of N\$991.80. Notably, Choppies had the cheapest 2L Nola Cooking Oil at N\$67.99 and onions at N\$16.99.

3. Checkers had a basket cost of N\$1,029.71, with slightly higher pricing on items such as beef stew (N\$119.90) and pasta (N\$79.99).

4. Shoprite recorded a basket price of N\$1,032.80, offering competitive prices on staple products such as 2L Nola Cooking Oil (N\$68.99) and eggs (N\$59.99).

5. Pick n Pay had a total basket cost of N\$1,037.80, with relatively high prices on eggs (N\$68.99) and toothpaste (N\$24.99).

6. Spar offered a basket priced at N\$1,061.80, reflecting a moderate pricing strategy, with beef stew at N\$109.99 and

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tomatoes at N\$52.99.

7. OK Foods reported the highest basket price at N\$1,086.80, largely due to high prices for onions (N\$27.99) and beef stew (N\$112.99).

### Hypermarket Basket Analysis

In the hypermarket category, Checkers provided the most affordable option, with a basket priced at N\$990.80.

- Checkers led in affordability, featuring a competitive price for beef stew at N\$79.99 and cooking oil at N\$68.99.

- Woermann Brock followed with a basket cost of N\$1,009.80, with slightly higher prices for fresh produce such as onions (N\$23.99) and potatoes (N\$30.99).

- Metro Hyper was the most expensive in this category, with a total basket price of N\$1,069.80, significantly affected by the high cost of beef stew (N\$199.99).

### Our Grocery Basket Comprises:

- Loaf of bread
- 2-litre Nola Sunflower Oil
- 5kg Top Score maize meal
- 2.5kg Marathon sugar (white sugar)
- 1.5kg Real Good Chicken
- 1kg Beef stew
- 2kg Mama rice
- 3kg Pasta Polana Macaroni
- 1-litre Nammilk full cream milk
- Twinsaver toilet paper rolls 2-ply white (9's)
- 700ml Wellington Tomato Sauce
- 2kg Sunlight Washing Powder
- 750ml Sunlight Dishwashing Liquid
- 500g Rama Butter
- 18 Waldschmidt eggs (medium)
- 150g Protex bar soap
- 100ml Aquafresh toothpaste
- 1kg Onions
- 1kg Potatoes
- 1kg Tomatoes

**Note:** We do not take specials or loyalty card discounts into consideration. When we find certain goods on special, for example, “Get N\$10.00 off when buying 18 (medium) eggs and pay N\$55.00,” we log the price as N\$65.00 to exclude the special.

## PROCUREMENT NOTICE



MTC hereby invites companies to participate in the following procurement opportunity:

### TENDER NO: MTC02-25-O

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SERVICE CONTAINERS FOR MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED (MTC)

#### Briefing Meeting:

Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 @ 09H00

#### Briefing Meeting Venue:

Microsoft Teams, the link will be on MTC's website.

**Closing Date: Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025 by 14h30**

### TENDER NO: MTC03-25-O

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PROMOTIONAL ITEMS FOR MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED (MTC)

#### Briefing Meeting:

Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 @ 14H30

#### Briefing Meeting Venue:

Microsoft Teams, the link will be on MTC's website.

**Closing Date: Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025 by 14h30**

### TENDER NO: MTC06-25-O

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF GROCERIES AND CLEANING MATERIALS FOR MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS (MTC)

#### Briefing Meeting:

Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 @ 11H30

#### Briefing Meeting Venue:

Microsoft Teams, the link will be on MTC's website.

**Closing Date: Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025 by 14h30**

### TENDER NO: MTC08-25-O

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PRE-PRINTED STATIONERY AND MARKETING MATERIALS FOR MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED (MTC)

#### Briefing Meeting:

Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 @ 09H00

#### Briefing Meeting Venue:

Microsoft Teams, the link will be on MTC's website.

**Closing Date: Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025 by 14h30**



mtc.com.na

Terms of reference are available at:  
<https://www.mtc.com.na/procurement/tenders>



## Shiimi makes new appointments to Central Procurement Board

**T**he Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises, Ipumbu Shiimi, has announced the appointment and re-appointment of members to the Central Procurement Board of Namibia (CPBN) for a three-year term, effective from 1 March 2025 to 28 February 2028.

The newly constituted board is expected to strengthen transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the country's public procurement process.

Mary Ndesihafela Shiimi, an

experienced engineer with over 20 years in transportation and project management, has been appointed as the board's Chairperson. She is a registered civil engineer and currently serves at the City of Windhoek.

Brian Katjaerua, a legal and business executive with extensive experience in law, banking, and corporate governance, has been named Deputy Chairperson. He has held key positions in both the private and public sectors.



“The newly constituted board is expected to strengthen transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the country’s public procurement process.

Other members of the board include Paulus Tshiningayamwe, Acting Director of Information Technology at the Bank of Namibia, who specializes in IT strategy and cybersecurity; Immanuel Ndinoomwa Natangwe Kadhila, Managing Director at Eos Capital, bringing expertise in investment management; and Abrie Collard, a Chartered Accountant with financial and governance proficiency.

The board also features Julinda Memosa !Garus-Oas, a procurement expert from NAMCOR; Simon Tedy Shivute, a quantity surveyor; and Lucia Kazetjikuria, a Chartered Accountant with experience in business strategy and financial management.

The CPBN plays a critical role in overseeing Namibia’s procurement system, ensuring compliance with regulations and promoting fair competition in government tenders.

According to

procurement data , between April 1, 2017, and March 31, 2024, the CPBN has awarded procurement contracts amounting to N\$13.8 billion.

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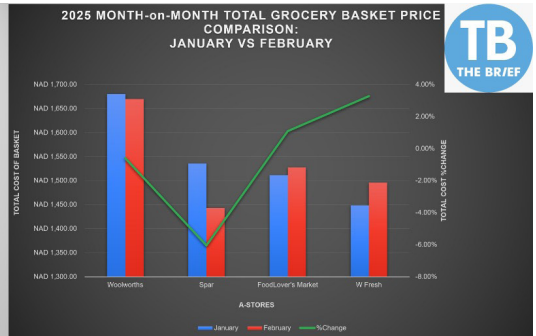
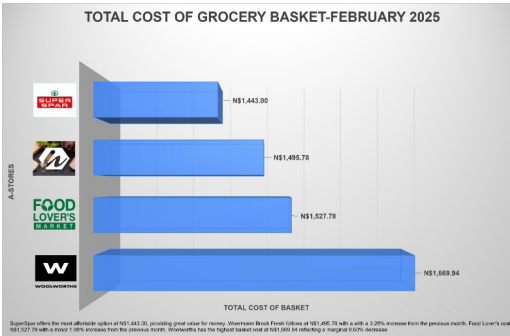
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## SuperSpar takes the lead as the most affordable A-Store in February

**F**or February 2025, SuperSpar emerged as the most affordable A-store with a total basket cost of N\$1,443.00. This marks a shift from January when Woermann Brock Fresh held the top spot for affordability.

Following SuperSpar, Woermann Brock Fresh secured second place with a basket cost of N\$1,495.78, maintaining its reputation as a budget-friendly retailer.

Food Lovers Market came in third at N\$1,527.78, offering competitive prices on selected products. Woolworths remained the most expensive retailer, with a total basket cost of N\$1,669.94, reflecting its premium product range.

### Key Product Pricing Breakdown

- Milk (1L): Woolworths - N\$29.95 | SuperSpar - N\$29.90 | Food Lovers Market - N\$22.99 | Woermann Brock Fresh - N\$28.99
- Chicken Breast (per kg): Woolworths - N\$142.95 | SuperSpar - N\$140.00 | Food Lovers Market - N\$139.99 | Woermann Brock Fresh - N\$114.99
- Olive Oil (1L): Woolworths - N\$94.95 | SuperSpar - N\$84.99 | Food Lovers

Market - N\$59.99 | Woermann Brock Fresh - N\$79.99

### Comparative Analysis

While Woermann Brock Fresh led as the most affordable A-store in January, February saw SuperSpar taking the lead with the lowest total basket cost.

However, Woermann Brock Fresh remains a strong competitor, offering value on key products such as chicken breast and household essentials.

Food Lovers Market maintains its mid-range pricing strategy, balancing affordability with product variety.

Woolworths continues to position itself as the premium retailer, with the highest basket total due to its higher prices on key items such as olive oil and sirloin steak.

### Grocery Basket Items

The grocery basket used for this comparison includes the following 22 items:

- Loaf of bread
- 2-litre Sunflower Oil
- 2.5kg Sugar (white sugar)
- Chicken Filets (per kg)

While Woermann Brock Fresh led as the most affordable A-store in January, February saw SuperSpar taking the lead with the lowest total basket cost.

- Beef sirloin (2kg)
- Tastic Rice (Basmati) 1kg
- Macaroni (1kg)
- 1-litre full cream milk
- 9 Baby Soft toilet paper (350 sheets)
- Salad Dressing
- 1kg Sunlight Washing Powder (Auto)
- Sunlight Dishwashing Liquid 500g
- Butter (500g)
- Foam Bath 100ml
- Colgate Toothpaste (1kg)
- Onions (1kg)
- Potatoes (1kg)
- Tomatoes (1kg)
- Apples (1kg)
- Lettuce
- Cucumber (240g)
- Cheese

This monthly survey by The Brief aims to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions by comparing prices across major A-store retailers. By tracking the cost of a consistent grocery basket, shoppers can determine the best value

for their needs each month.



## INVITATION

### PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF NAMPOWER 2025/2026 BULK ELECTRICITY TARIFF APPLICATION (GENERATION & TRANSMISSION)



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Public Presentation:

5 March 2025

Khomas Regional Council  
Hall (Windhoek)

10:00am – 1:00pm

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Presentation:

7 March 2025

Otjovondjupa Regional  
Council Hall (Otjiwarongo)

10:00am – 1:00pm

**NB:** You will have an opportunity to ask questions, seek clarity and explanations on the bulk electricity tariff application.



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# Mastering AI: Transforming doubts into strategic opportunities

## How to ensure that AI won't take your job

By Stantin Siebritz

**A**s said before artificial intelligence isn't an unstoppable force coming to take our jobs. Instead, it's an incredibly powerful tool that, when wielded correctly, can enhance our professional and personal lives.

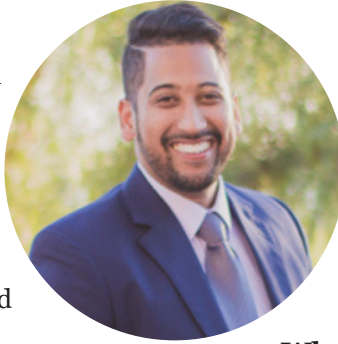
### But how can you transition from fearing AI to harnessing its superpowers?

Here's my number one tip for maximizing your experience with AI; Prompting. Just like a well-worded wish in a genie's lamp leads to the desired outcome, vague prompting results in bland responses. If you want AI to be your personal assistant, creative writing partner, or business consultant, you need to know how to prompt it properly.

**Imagine this scenario:** You're excited about ChatGPT and type a single-sentence request: "Please draft a professional letter..." You provide some details, hit enter, and wait. The result? A short, skeletal outline. No flair, no spark, just the bare minimum. Disappointed, you might think AI has failed you. But the truth is, the vague prompt left ChatGPT with little to work with.

### AI Is a Tool, Learn to Wield It

AI is a tool, much like a hammer or a chef's knife. And just like using a hammer incorrectly can bruise your thumb, using AI incorrectly can lead to subpar results. To take full advantage of AI tools, you must know how to use them effectively.



**AI is a tool, much like a hammer or a chef's knife.**

### What Exactly Is a Prompt?

A prompt is the instruction or request you feed into the AI. It's essentially the blueprint you give the AI to guide its response. Think of it like planting a seed in a garden. A generic seed will grow into a generic plant, but a well-chosen, well-nurtured seed will blossom into exactly the flora you desire.

When it comes to prompting AI, there are five essential aspects to consider.

#### 1. AI Agent Role

Define the role you want the AI to play. By specifying the AI agent's role, you provide it with a frame of reference, helping it respond with the right perspective and voice.

For example, you might say, "You are an experienced HR manager helping me draft a fair but firm employee warning letter." This clarity ensures the AI understands its role and can deliver a more accurate response.

#### 2. Context

Next, provide the context clearly. The AI can only work with the information you provide, so the more thorough the context, the more on-target the AI's responses will be.

For instance, you could explain, "We



are a mid-sized Namibian tech startup with 50 employees, aiming to expand into new African markets.” This background information helps the AI tailor its responses to your specific situation.

### 3. Action

Specify exactly what you want the AI to do. AI doesn’t read minds, so a clear directive avoids generic or irrelevant results.

You might instruct, “Please draft a concise, professional proposal to potential investors, highlighting our growth strategy and social impact.” This precise action helps the AI understand your expectations and deliver accordingly.

### 4. Format/Tone

Indicate how formal, informal, creative, or factual you want the response to be. By outlining the format and tone, you’ll get the style and structure you want right from the start, saving time on revisions.

For example, you could request, “Write the proposal in a friendly but authoritative tone, approximately 300 words, with bullet points for the main benefits.” This guidance ensures the response matches your desired style.

### 5. Target Audience

Tell the AI who it’s speaking to by identifying the target audience. This allows the AI to calibrate the language, focus, and detail level to resonate with the intended readers.

For instance, you might say, “Our primary audience is local investors in Windhoek who are passionate about technology innovation in Africa.”

This specificity helps the AI craft a message that appeals directly to your audience.

### Putting It All Together

When you combine these five aspects into a single, coherent prompt, you’ll be amazed at how well the AI can respond. Here’s a

hypothetical prompt that uses all these elements:

**Prompt Example:** “You are a seasoned business consultant with deep knowledge of African tech startups. I run a small software company in Namibia that’s looking to expand into neighboring countries.

Please write a two-page project proposal to potential investors, focusing on our mission to create jobs for youth.

The tone should be professional yet hopeful.

Our target audience is socially conscious investors in Southern Africa who value sustainable growth.”

With a prompt like that, you’ll be more likely to receive a response that matches your vision, rather than a lukewarm, skeletal draft.

### The Bottom Line

AI isn’t a menacing overlord ready to take your job; it’s a powerful ally, if you know how to harness it.

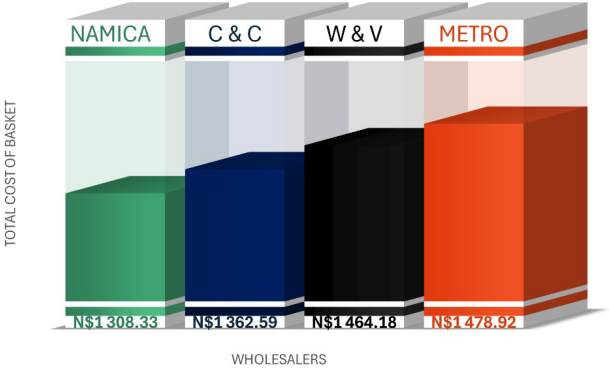
Whether you’re drafting a letter, formulating a business strategy, or summarizing a complex academic paper, the key to great results often lies in the prompt you provide.

Armed with these guidelines, you’ll find that AI can be your sidekick, your creative partner, or your strategic consultant just like R2-D2 was to Luke Skywalker (minus the beeps and whistles).

Experiment boldly. Craft your next query with clarity and depth, and see how AI rewards you with insightful, tailored responses. As Jerry Maguire famously said, ‘Help me help you.’”

***\*Stantin Siebritz is a Namibian software engineer, the Managing Director of New Creation Solutions, and an Artificial Intelligence specialist.***

Total Grocery Basket Cost by Wholesalers – February 2025



- 10kg Top Score**  
A staple in many households, Top Score remains competitively priced across wholesalers, with Namica offering a great deal at N\$133.49.
- 10kg Mama's Rice**  
Rice prices vary significantly, with Namica leading affordability at N\$204.99, while other wholesalers price it as high as N\$273.80.
- 6-pack Namilk Full Cream Fresh Milk**  
Fresh milk remains a key household necessity, with Namica providing one of the best prices at N\$129.99.

Namica remains the most affordable wholesaler in Windhoek with a total basket price of N\$1,308.33. Metro saw the highest month-on-month increase of 3.8%, while Windhoek Cash and Carry experienced a slight decrease of 0.6%

# Namica remains the most affordable wholesaler

Namica continues to offer the lowest wholesale prices in Windhoek, securing its position as the most budget-friendly option for February 2025 with a total basket price of N\$1,308.33. This keeps it ahead of competitors, providing the best value for bulk shoppers.

In a month-on-month comparison, Windhoek Cash and Carry experienced a slight decrease of 0.6%, bringing its basket price to N\$1,362.59. Metro saw a 3.8% price increase, reaching N\$1,478.92, while Wecke and Voigts recorded a marginal rise of 0.1%, with its total now at N\$1,464.18.

Key product prices:

	10kg Top Score	10kg Mama's Rice	6-pack Namilk Full Cream Fresh Milk
NAMICA	N\$133.49	N\$204.99	N\$129.99
Windhoek Cash & Carry	N\$122.95	N\$250.95	N\$128.99
Wecke & Voigts	N\$137.10	N\$273.80	N\$128.00
Metro	N\$133.99	N\$229.99	N\$156.99

These price fluctuations highlight the differences in wholesale pricing across Windhoek, reinforcing Namica’s stronghold as the preferred choice for affordability.

Namica continues to stand out as the most cost-effective option, while Metro and Wecke and Voigts experienced price increases. These price fluctuations highlight the differences in wholesale pricing across Windhoek, reinforcing Namica’s stronghold as the preferred choice for affordability.

Survey Overview


Each month, The Brief conducts a price survey across major wholesalers in Windhoek to assess affordability and price trends. The survey compares the cost of a standard grocery basket, helping consumers make informed purchasing decisions.

The surveyed basket included essential grocery items such as:

- Cooking Oil (Nola) – 5L
- Top Score Maize Meal – 10kg
- Marathon Sugar – 10kg
- Real Good Chicken – 4kg
- Mama’s Rice – 10kg

- Polana Macaroni Pasta – 5kg
- Nammilk Full Cream Fresh Milk – 6-pack (1L each)
- Bokomo Bread Wheat White Flour – 10kg

**NOTE:** The survey was conducted using original prices and did not take discounted prices into account, ensuring a fair comparison of standard wholesale rates



SINOMINE

TSUMEB SMELTER

TENDER

TENDER: ST25\_001

DESIGN OF TAILINGS DAM FACILITIES

Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter (Pty) Ltd. invites registered, competent and experienced individuals or companies to tender for the Design of Tailings Dam Facilities.

Details of the Tender

Tender availability

:

From Monday, 3rd of March 2025  
Tender documents can be obtained by e-mailing: ststenders@sinomine.na

Cost per set

:

No levy

Closing date for submission

:

Friday, 21 March 2025 at 16h00

Submission requirements are defined in the tender documents and the closing date for submission is final, no extensions will be granted. Technical information, bid clarifications and any enquiries pertaining to this tender can be requested at: ststenders@sinomine.na

All tender proposals must be submitted via e-mail to:ststenders@sinomine.na

No other method of submission will be accepted

Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter employs an equal opportunity policy. Tenders will be awarded through a competitive bidding process which is transparent and open to all individuals or companies that meets the set criteria. Any person(s) or company that qualify as per the tender's evaluation criteria, may bid.

# Trustco Bank winds up operations, transfers unclaimed deposits

**F**ormer Trustco Bank Namibia has officially concluded the closure of its banking operations, finalizing a process that began on 23 August 2024.

The former bank stated that it had transferred all remaining unclaimed client deposits, along with accrued interest, to the Guardian Fund under the authority of the Master of the High Court, in compliance with a directive from the Bank of Namibia.

According to Acting CEO Riaan Bruyns, the bank made extensive efforts to contact all clients and facilitate the collection of their deposits before finalizing the closure.

"We have successfully dispersed nearly 80% of all deposits, and as of 28 February 2025, the remaining unclaimed funds have been transferred to the Guardian Fund to ensure that former clients' money remains secure and accessible to them when they come forward," Bruyns said.

He further stated that a final notification has been issued to affected clients, advising them on the process of claiming their funds through the Guardian Fund, effective from 3 March 2025.

"With the completion of this final transfer, former Trustco Bank Namibia has fulfilled its obligations pertaining to the disbursement of client deposits," he added.

The bank's closure follows the Bank of Namibia's suspension of Trustco Bank Namibia's authorization to operate as a banking institution in August 2023. The suspension was initially temporary, contingent on the bank addressing specific instances of non-compliance with the Banking Institutions Act.

By the end of the suspension period, the



bank had not resolved the issues that led to its suspension. On 29 July 2024, the Bank of Namibia issued a notice of its intention to revoke the bank's authorization to conduct banking business due to its failure to meet the required conditions. This led to the central bank officially revoking Trustco Bank Namibia's banking license and directing the institution to submit its deposit repayment plan by 27 August 2024.





## Namibia introduces e-visa system to boost tourism, revenue

The government has introduced an enhanced visa process, including an expanded visa-on-arrival policy and a new e-visa system, to improve border efficiency, boost tourism and increase state revenue.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security launched an online visa-on-arrival application on Monday to modernise immigration processes and align Namibia's visa policies with global best practices.

Minister Albert Kawana emphasised the economic benefits of the revised visa framework, noting that the visa-on-arrival policy, first introduced in 2019, had already increased international visitor numbers.

"Revenue from visa fees will go to the Ministry of Finance's state revenue account. The government is committed to ensuring these fees do not create barriers for legitimate travellers and will review the system as needed," he said.

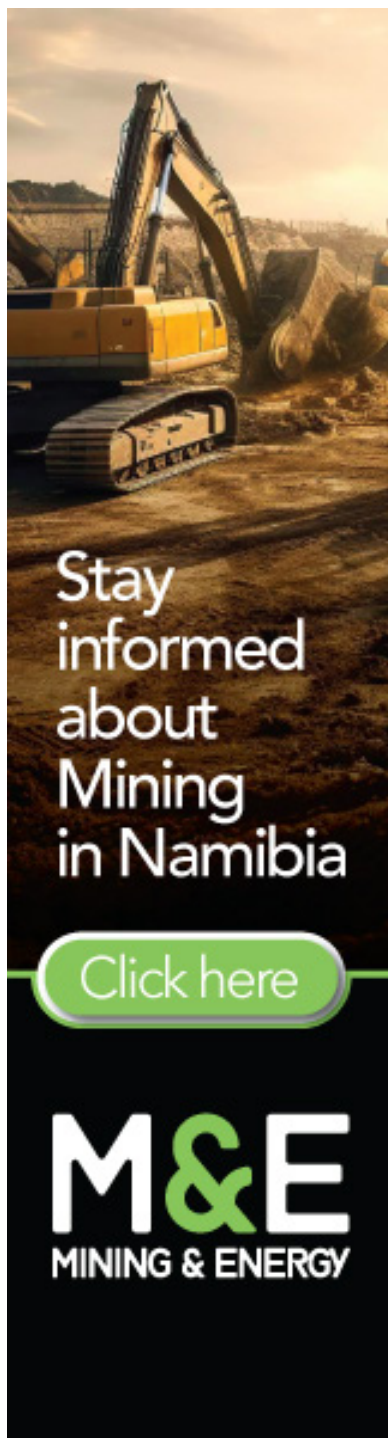
The new e-visa system will further simplify travel to Namibia by allowing visitors to apply

online before arrival, reducing congestion at border posts and ensuring a smoother entry process.

"Our objective is to make Namibia more accessible while maintaining a secure and efficient immigration system. The introduction of online visa applications eliminates unnecessary delays, allowing travellers to focus on their experience rather than lengthy bureaucratic procedures," Kawana noted.

As of 1 April 2025, travellers from countries that do not offer Namibians visa-free entry will be required to pay a fee upon arrival: N\$1,600 (approximately US\$90) for non-African Union countries and N\$1,200 (approximately US\$70) for African Union countries. Kawana said these fees have been benchmarked against similar policies in other countries and will be subject to regular review.

The original visa-on-arrival policy in 2019 was introduced to attract more international travellers. However, challenges related to long queues at border posts and inconsistent



visa processing prompted the government to modernise the system with an e-visa platform.

Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board's CEO Nangula Uaandja highlighted the potential financial gains from the initiative.

"If we target even 0.1% of the global market potential of 2.5 billion travellers that translates into 2.5 million visitors. If each of them pays N\$1,000 upon arrival, Namibia could generate N\$2.5 billion in revenue," Uaandja explained.

Beyond revenue generation, she said the revised visa policy is expected to enhance Namibia's global competitiveness in the tourism sector. The government is keen to ensure that the changes do not negatively impact tourism, with consultations conducted to address concerns regarding fees and potential restrictions on budget travellers.

"Our challenge now is to ensure that we effectively market Namibia as a destination of choice. If we can attract even a fraction of the available global travel market, we stand to gain significantly,"

Uaandja added.

The online application system is set to improve border security by pre-screening visitors before arrival, streamlining entry procedures, and maintaining a robust security framework.

This comes as Namibia expanded its visa-on-arrival facility, initially granted to 45 countries in 2019 and extended to 11 more in 2023, now covering 57 countries, including 28 African Union nations.

However, effective 1 April 2025, 33 countries, including Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uzbekistan, will require entry visas but can still utilise visa on arrival and electronic visas.

Kawana noted that Namibia encourages affected nationals to apply online in advance to avoid travel disruptions.

# NAMCOL appoints Dr. Ngepathimo Kadhila as CEO

The Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL) has appointed Dr. Ngepathimo Kadhila as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective March 1, 2025.

He joins NAMCOL from the University of Namibia (UNAM), where he served as Quality Assurance Director—a key role in the development, registration, accreditation, and implementation of blended and fully online learning programmes at the institution.

Dr. Kadhila succeeds Dr. Heroldt Vekaama Murangi, who retired in August 2023.

Bringing over 20 years of experience in higher education quality assurance, Dr. Kadhila has a strong background in open, distance, and e-learning (ODEL). His career includes nine years as a high school teacher before transitioning into higher education leadership.

His expertise extends to advising senior university leadership on quality assurance, leading curriculum development for both traditional and online education, and contributing to regional ODEL standards as part of the SADC Community of Practice. He also co-authored the Guidelines for Quality Assurance of Blended Learning and eLearning in the SADC Region.

Dr. Kadhila's professional training includes an International Quality Review Reviewer certification from the UK's Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) and Internal Quality Assurance (TrainIQA) training through the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). He has also completed a Higher Education Leadership Fellowship



from Cardiff University under the Phoenix Project, as well as a Business Management and Leadership certification from Stellenbosch University Business School. Additionally, he holds a Doctoral Supervision certification from Stellenbosch University's Africa Centre for Scholarship.

Academically, Dr. Kadhila earned a PhD in Higher Education Studies from the University of the Free State in South Africa. He also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education from Rhodes University and both a Bachelor and Master of Education degree from the University of Namibia.

His research and publications focus on academic development, curriculum design, teaching and learning, assessment practices, and quality assurance in higher education.



Enriching  
Generations

# FINANCIAL MARKET MONITOR

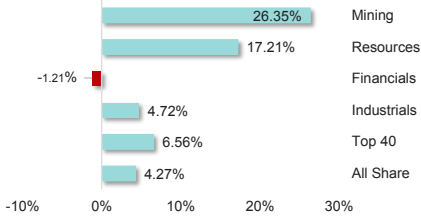
### Commodities

Spot Gold	2883.31
Platinum	961.64
Palladium	949.99
Silver	30.95
Uranium	65.55
Brent Crude	72.79
Iron Ore	99.11
Copper	9359.06
Natural Gas	3.94
Lithium	9.85

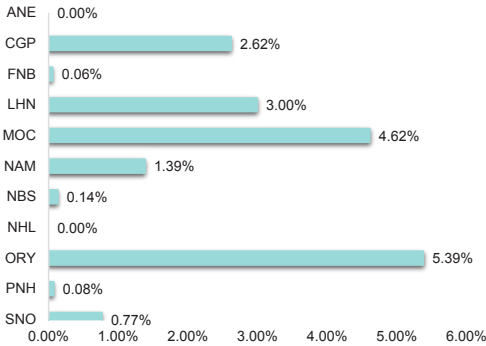
### Currencies

USD/ZAR	18.5950
EUR/ZAR	19.2300
GBP/ZAR	23.6141
USD/CNY	7.2857
EUR/USD	1.0495
GBP/USD	1.2699
USD/RUB	89.4766
CPI	3.20%
Repo Rate	6.75%
Prime Rate	10.50%

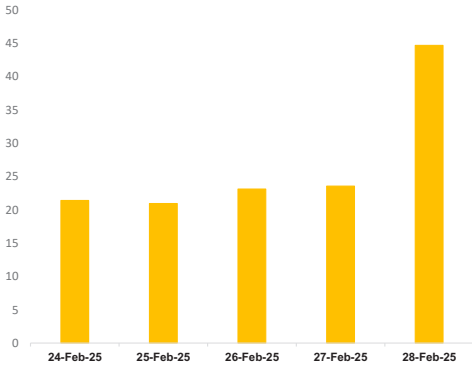
### JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



### NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %



### JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



### Global Indices: Year to Date in %

