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Press Release

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AL JAMA-AH intervenes in Bushbuckridge water crisis!

The Al Jama-ah Party has on Thursday 18 August 2022 despatched its leader and Member of Parliament Hon Ganief Hendricks who serves on the Portfolio Committee on Water and Sanitation, to Busbuckridge in Mpumalanga for an oversight visit in six villages where there are no water supplies.

The oversight follows a frantic call to the party for help from a member of the royal family Prince Booi Nkuna who raised serious concerns surrounding the fact that villages are being neglected by cabinet Ministers living in these villages and ANC deployers tasked to address the water crisis in the area. Nkuna says the Minister of Water and Sanitation Affairs in Gqberha Metros recently acted swiftly on Day Zero water supply but have failed to respond to the villagers' in Busbuckridge desperate calls for water.

The six villages without water are: Mkhulu, Mashonamini, Madras, Johnella, Ndubane and Buyelani.

"I inspected a facility which stretches as far as the eyes can see where a commercial farm is being irrigated with stolen water. The farmer leads treated, and potable water meant for residents to drink from an air valve to his farm, despite having a river very close to his farm," says Hendricks.

Hendricks further witnessed a truck arriving at 6:00pm with four people who went down a pumping facility and disassembled municipal infrastructure to unlawfully connect a hose pipe so they could fill 50 X 25 litre containers with water. This was carried out in the presence of senior Bushbuckridge Municipal officials. Hendricks says this is a desperate act by villagers who need water for their daily survival.

"I counted about nearly 100 standpipes in the yards of residents but without a trickle of water and thousands of standpipes are without water. It appears that this poor management, neglect, and constitutional delinquency existed since 2018," he says.

Officials of the Provincial Department of Water and Sanitation will be meeting with Hendricks this morning to discuss the water crisis. "I will be staying on in Bushbuckridge to ensure that the standpipes in the six villages get water and that this constitutional delinquency be dealt with speedily," he added.

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