

Some organisations believe Schabbir is being held personally accountable for the failures and mismanagement at the hospital.

the Department of Health to come clean on how it is going to address the maladministration at the hospital," Chase stated.

Verkhotina licence in Russia. The Verkhotina licence area contains the Grib pipe, one of the world's largest undeveloped diamond deposits.

City's flamingos make headlines around world

STAFF REPORTER

THE CONTROVERSY surrounding Kamfers Dam and the proposed Northgate housing development has placed the Diamond City in the international spotlight.

Several articles have appeared recently in the British media, including in the Telegraph, the Independent, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and Afrol News.

The article in the RSPB states: "A second major threat is facing endangered lesser flamingos in Africa after the announcement of development plans close to a man-made breeding site, built less than two years ago to help reverse the birds' decline."

In the Telegraph, under the heading "Flamingos under threat from pollution", by Paul Eccleston, it is stated that the key nesting site for one of Africa's emblematic birds is under threat from development and pollution.

"Kamfers Dam near Kimberley, South Africa, is the only nesting site for lesser flamingos in the

country and one of only six breeding areas for the birds in the world."

The article goes on to say that the flamingo has become a symbol for the city of Kimberley and an important revenue earner as their spectacular flying displays brings tourists from all over the continent.

"The city has a Flamingo School, a Flamingo Real Estate, a Flamingo Race Course and a Flamingo Casino. Flamingos are also included in the emblems of the Sol Plaatje Municipality and the Frances Baard District Municipality."

The Independent's headline focuses on the Homevale Sewage Works: "Sewage threatens to turn flamingo breeding site into cesspool". That story is written by Michael McCarthy, the Environment Editor.

The articles states: "In one of the world's great wildlife spectacles, tens of thousands of lesser flamingos gather at a South African wetland - but it is a spectacle now gravely threatened by pollution."

The introduction in Afrol News is that South African authorities have been called to reverse plans to develop housing projects on the banks of Kamfers Dam, outside the Northern Cape capital of Kimberley, fearing it will threaten the only breeding population of lesser flamingos (*Phoeniconaias minor*) in the country.

"The dam, which supports one of only four breeding populations in Africa, has birds that bred during 2008, with an incredible 9 000 chicks hatching on the its artificial flamingo breeding island. Conservationists said the development will negatively reverse the regular breeding trend of lesser flamingos," the article states.

The Save the Flamingo campaign, run by the Save the Flamingo Association, has recently drawn even more attention to the plight of our pink birds.

It is a non-profit association of individuals, companies and organisations who are concerned about the welfare of Kamfers Dam and its flamingos.

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