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EMBARGO: NONE

RK KHAN BOARD STATEMENT UNFORTUNATE AND PREMATURE

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health is surprised by the statement attributed to the RK Khan Hospital Board around the supposed slashing of the hospital budget by R17 million which has led to the hospital cutting down on some services.

"We find it surprising that the board has issued such a statement ahead of the MEC announcing the budget allocation of the R21, 6 billion allocated to the department" says the MEC for Health, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo.

The MEC for Finance, Mrs. Ina Cronje, announced the provincial budget on the 4th of March 2010 where the department of health was given a second largest budget share in the province. The R21, 6 billion budget allocation was an increase from the previous year's budget allocation of R17, 4 billion.

Hospital boards advise the MEC and cannot take strategic and policy decisions of this nature.

ENDS!

ISSUED BY:
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