

**SPEECH BY KZN HEALTH MEC, DR SIBONGISENI DHLOMO ON THE
OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NOMPONJWANA CLINIC IN
WARD 4 NTAMBANANA MUNICIPALITY**

18 FEBRUARY 2011

Programme Director

Inkosi Biyela

Izinduna kanye neSigungu

Mayor – Cllr Z. J. Biyela

Our District Manager – Mr Mfowethu Zungu

Clinic Operational Manager – Sr BJ Xaba

Chairperson of the Clinic Committee and all its members

Abasebenzi boMnyango in all categories

Malunga omphakathi ahloniphekile

Our Honourable Premier, Dr Zweli Mkhize when he assumed his position as the head of the KwaZulu Natal government made a commitment that his administration was going work towards creating a better life for all the people of this Province.

Today we are very proud to come back and report to the people of Ntambanana that as the Department of Health we have also played our part by spending a sum of **R5, 833,000** to revamp and make extensions to the much needed health facility servicing the communities of:

- Nomponjwana,
- Mfule,
- Mpevu,
- Mkhandlwini,
- Maduna,
- Qomintaba,
- Upper Nseleni,
- Bhonkolo,
- Nkwenkwe,
- Ndulinde, and
- Maduma, and
- KwaNogwaja

Today we would like to report that our people are now getting improved and better levels of care because of the additions made in the form of:

- 4x consulting rooms,
- 1x big labour ward,
- 1x lying in ward,
- 1x TB counseling room

- 1 x treatment room
- 1 x counseling room and
- On call nurses that have been provided with Staff accommodation

Programme Director, I may as well mention that it has always been our concern that since its inception in 1975 this clinic has been operating **five [5] days a week** and for **only eight [8] hours** a day.

Today we would like UNDABEZITHA and all the people to know that as of **February 7**, we have changed all that. The clinic is now operating as category B facility and granting access **12 hours per day and 7 days per week**. Over and above that, we have also deployed added personnel in the form of:

- 1 x Professional Nurses and
- 6X Staff Nurses

Ladies and gentlemen, you will also recall that last week when Honourable President Jacob Zuma was giving His State of the Nation Address said:

'We urge every sector and every business entity, regardless of size, to focus on job creation. Every contribution counts in this national effort.'

All government departments will align their programmes with the job creation imperative.'

Our Department is ready to implement that especially through our Nurse Training 2011 – 2012 programme.

Today I would like to announce that just for **Uthungulu District we will be recruiting more than 200 people to be trained as nurses**. I want to emphasize that the selection of candidates is district-based. All the student nurses for this District will be trained here at **Uthungulu** in the following institutions:

- Ngwelezane Hospital,
- Nkandla Hospital,
- Mbongolwane Hospital and
- Eshowe Hospital

COURSES on offer are:

- DIPLOMA IN NURSING (GENERAL, PSYCHIATRIC, COMMUNITY) AND MIDWIFERY – the duration of the course is 4 YEARS

Minimum requirements:

Grade 12 (Std 10) and a Minimum of 25 points

- ENROLLED NURSE PROGRAMMES – the duration of the course is 2 YEARS

The minimum requirements:

Grade 12 (Std 10) and a Minimum of 15 points

English symbol “E” Higher Grade or “D” Standard Grade

The closing date for the first batch of applicants is February 25, 2011.

Siyagcizelela ukuthi sifuna ukuqeqesha kanye nokuqhasha abantwana bendawo. We will be verifying addresses to ensure that it is local students that are benefitting for the Uthungulu District intake.

We would like our communities to note that the advertisement with regard to the above are placed in the following newspapers during the month of February:-

- Ilanga
- Natal Witness
- Mercury
- Zululand Observer

Lastly, please allow me to inform you that we have a serious concern with the issue of maternal and child deaths. Our worry is that this clinic

last year alone attended to **12 cases of under -18 teenagers who fell pregnant**. Without doubt, this is a societal issue in which all of us can play a role. Let the deflowering of the nation's flowers come to an end.

As government we commit to do more as long as the community plays its part and lessen the incidents of crime that our health care providers are complaining about in this area. Let us ensure the safety of our nurses, ambulances and all the government buildings that are there to improve our lives.

Working together we will achieve more!!!