



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**

Premier Ntuli wraps up KwaZulu-Natal Cabinet Lekgotla with major resolutions at media briefing



link between the Executive Council and the Provincial Legislature, maintaining the balance of power between these branches of government. Premier Ntuli congratulated MEC Duma, acknowledging his extensive experience in government roles.

Support for Struggling Municipalities

The Lekgotla underscored the need to enhance support for struggling municipalities to ensure they can deliver basic services and stimulate economic growth. A key resolution includes making clean audits compulsory for municipalities, linked to performance agreements.

Focus on eThekweni Metro Municipality

Premier Ntuli highlighted the importance of addressing challenges faced by eThekweni Metro Municipality, especially in water and sanitation services and attracting investment. The province will support eThekweni through the eThekweni Presidential Working Group intervention and a Section 154 intervention. Members of the Provincial Executive Council and Heads of Departments will be deployed as Operation Sukuma Sakhe-District Development Model Champions, with the Premier himself designated as Champion of eThekweni Metro District.

Crime Prevention Strategies

The Premier reaffirmed the commitment to improving community safety, noting the approval of a Provincial Crime Summit scheduled for 2 August in eThekweni. The summit will address the root causes of violence, violent protests, and damage to public infrastructure, aiming to develop a robust intervention strategy.

Engagement with the Construction Industry

Addressing concerns in the construction sector, Premier Ntuli directed MECs to organise urgent engagements with the construction industry to resolve ongoing project disruptions. This initiative aims to support compliant businesses and safeguard the integrity of the sector.

The resolutions from the Lekgotla will be consolidated into a detailed plan of action, which Premier Ntuli will present in his upcoming State of the Province Address. This address will provide a comprehensive overview of the steps and strategies for implementing the Lekgotla's resolutions and advancing the province's development goals.

In closing, Premier Ntuli thanked all delegates for their contributions and expressed optimism about the future. He emphasized the Lekgotla's role in setting a clear direction for KwaZulu-Natal and reaffirmed the province's commitment to resilience, effective governance, and collaborative progress.

KwaZulu-Natal Premier Thami Ntuli addressed the media on 24 July 2024 following the conclusion of the KwaZulu-Natal Cabinet Lekgotla. The two-day Cabinet Lekgotla sitting was characterised by intensive and candid discussions focused on recalibrating and revitalising the province's trajectory.

Key Highlights from the Press Briefing

Climate Change Legislation

Premier Ntuli expressed appreciation for the recent signing of the Climate Change Bill into law by President Cyril Ramaphosa. This legislation is crucial for KwaZulu-Natal, which is significantly impacted by climate change. The Climate Change Act is expected to enhance the province's response to environmental challenges and support the Provincial Climate Change Strategy.

Special Cabinet Resolution: Appointment of Leader of Government Business

During a special meeting held on the evening of 23 July, the Provincial Executive Council approved the appointment of MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Mr Siboniso Duma, as the Leader of Government Business. This role is designed to strengthen the

TWO-POT RETIREMENT SYSTEM

-President Cyril Ramaphosa signed the Pension Funds Amendment Bill into law. The Bill amends pension-related legislation to enable the implementation of a two-pot retirement system.

-The Two-Pot retirement system allows members more flexibility to access their retirement savings without needing to resign or retire early.

-The system enables members of a retirement fund to access a small portion of their retirement savings for emergency purposes.

-The system applies to all active members of pension fund, provident fund, retirement annuity and preservation fund.

-From the proposed date of 1 September 2024, one-third of retirement fund contributions will be split into a savings component and two-thirds into a retirement component.

-What is in the "savings component" will be available for withdrawal at any time before retirement. A member will be allowed to make a single withdrawal within a year of assessment.

-Withdrawals from the "savings component" will be added to the individual's taxable income and will be taxed at their marginal tax rates.



Suvash Singh Described As A Pillar of Excellence and Compassion



KwaZulu-Natal Director-General Dr Nonhlanhla O. Mkhize paid a moving tribute to fallen OTP IT guru Suvash Singh, who passed away after a short illness. Suvash's funeral took place on Friday 19 July 2024.

"It is with profound sadness that we bid farewell to Suvash Singh, a dedicated and compassionate member of the Premier's Office in KwaZulu-Natal. A dark cloud of grief has enveloped us as we remember his significant contributions and the indelible mark he left on our hearts and workplace.

Suvash reigned supreme in the Premier's Office's IT Department, executing his duties with excellence and humility. As Acting Director, he was a formidable force in IT, known for his remarkable work ethic and dedication. I first met Suvash seven years ago when I became the Director General of the province. Together, we embarked on the ambitious goal of transforming KwaZulu-Natal into a smart province through advanced IT services," said Dr Mkhize as she delivered her tribute during the funeral.

Dr Mkhize commended Suvash for wholeheartedly embracing the Digital Transformation Strategy and his tireless efforts which led to its approval by the Cabinet.

The Director-General applauded Suvash for his compassion which knew no bounds.

"Suvash's compassion extended beyond his professional life. His quick and selfless act of helping a financially struggling cleaner exemplified his caring nature. He was a beacon of hope, quick to assist those less fortunate than him, regardless of their background.

"Suvash's personal touch made a lasting impact on all who knew him. His work in implementing electronic submissions and e-recruitment systems greatly benefited the provincial government. He was more than a colleague; he was a friend who saw me as more than just the Director General, but as his second mother.

"To his wife Sarika, and his children Ashwarya and Kairav, we share in your sorrow and pain. Suvash's memory will continue to inspire us to emulate his work ethic and excellence.

"As we mourn Suvash's untimely passing, let us also celebrate his life and the rich legacy he leaves behind. His spirit lives on in our memories, and his kindness, humour, and dedication will forever enrich our lives. May Suvash's memory be a blessing, and may his soul find eternal peace. Hamba kahle Suvash, you fulfilled your role on earth with vigour and excellence," concluded Doctor Mkhize.



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Suvash Singh Described As A Pillar of Excellence and Compassion



Director-General Dr Nonhlanhla O. Mkhize together with OTP's Management and staff paying last respect to the fallen hero, Suvash Singh on 19 July 2024 at Raisethorpe.

Premier's Stars welcome new colleagues to the team

OTP welcomes new colleagues who joined the Office of the Premier. It is a great honour to have the following colleagues in our department. We are looking forward to the department's success with you. Congratulations and welcome colleagues.



Ms Nqobisile Mbodla
Director: Employee Health and Wellness



Ms Nomthandazo Jojisa
Director: PGITO Services



Ms Nonhlanhla Mirriam Ndebele
Finance Clerk: Creditors Management

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HIV and AIDS commemorates the Nelson Mandela Day with Mpfana Municipality

OTP HIV and AIDS on 18 July 2024, commemorated Nelson Mandela Day with Mpfana Municipality and its OSS stakeholders, i.e. DOH; COGTA; DSD, Inkunzi Isematholeni Organization, Keready and Aids Foundation of South Africa Organizations at Scottsfontein Farm Primary School based at Ward 01.

The 67 minutes became 5 hours as stakeholders rendered services and delivered speeches, motivating learners to love schooling, quoting from some of

Mandela's addresses. Moreover, parents and community members were also encouraged to support learners and educators in order for the learners to realize their goals.

The commemoration was mostly led by the Ward Councilor for Ward 01, honorable Cllr. M Mchunu; Mpfana Speaker, honorable Cllr. Z Dladla, as well as the Office of the Premier representative, Mrs. Gugu Shabangu, who also coordinated refreshments and gifts for the Learners.

