



**SPEECH NOTES BY KWAZULU-NATAL MEC FOR TRANSPORT,  
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON MR B. H. CELE DURING THE  
SIYAZENZEALA LAUNCH AT MNAMBITHI ON FRIDAY, 23 JANUARY 2009**

**All Protocol Observed**

- It is true that some of the challenges we have had to deal with since the advent of democracy are unemployment and poverty.
- It is on that score that the government of the day is still committed to its objective of building a people's contract to create work and fight poverty. At the heart of this commitment is the intention to ensure that decent work opportunities which empower women, youth and the disabled are created
- As a matter of policy, government resolved that there should be large-scale expansion of the use of labour intensive methods to alleviate unemployment and to meet service delivery backlogs in previously disadvantaged areas. Thus was born the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).
- The EPWP is an initiative that is aimed at bridging the gap between the growing economy and unemployed people who have yet to fully enjoy the benefits of economic development.

- Today we are rolling out Siyazenzela Domestic Waste Management Programme in the Mnambithi Municipality. This is an EPWP programme falling within the Environmental Sector. The programme seeks to alleviate poverty while raising environmental awareness in our communities. It is a programme initiated by the Department of Transport (KZN) and implemented through Municipalities. It is modeled along the Curitiba – Brazil, “Garbage that is not Garbage programme”, whereby poor households collect waste on behalf of the Municipality in exchange for food parcels.
- The programme was launched in the Hibiscus Coast Municipality in 2007. It was rolled out to the Umsunduzi Municipality in March 2008. Our intention is to see the programme being rolled out to all Municipalities not only in this province but also in other provinces. This is all in the quest to intensify our war on poverty.
- The framework for implementing the EPWP recognizes the respective responsibility and roles that all spheres of government must play. It is on that score that the cooperation between the Department of Transport (KZN) and the National Department of Public Works resulted in the programme being launched for the first time outside the KZN province in the Thulamele Municipality (Limpopo) in October 2008.
- The framework establishes a unique protocol, consistent with co-operative governance, within which the department and the relevant municipalities can achieve the government objectives of reducing poverty.
- Today we are reconfirming our commitment to making a meaningful and positive impact in the lives of our people in all corners of the province of KwaZulu Natal. This is done by a government which has decided to work for all its citizens, without any consideration of political affiliation.

- Therefore, the Mnambithi Municipality will undertake this project that we are handing over today with a view to enhancing the livelihoods of communities under its jurisdiction, irrespective of the political parties they belong to.
- It is with great pleasures that I announce the further expansion of this programme to Nongoma Municipality. Only a responsive government by the people, for the people, has the ability to ensure that people's lives change for the better.
- To this end, 60 beneficiaries have been selected to participate in the programme for a period of 12 months. These beneficiaries have undergone the process of signing contracts with the Municipality ensuring that they remain in the programme for the stipulated time period. Thereafter, the municipality will ensure the sustainability of the programme.
- The following areas as identified by the Municipality will be serviced through Siyazenzela methodology:

St Chads  
Roosboom  
Mcitsheni  
Mthandi  
Mbulwane  
Zakheni (E section)  
Thembalihle  
Watersmeet (E section)  
Beurford and Peace Town.

- In conclusion, I want to emphasise to all co-coordinators of this programme that corruption and fraud will not be tolerated at all. You must know that stealing against our poor communities is being greedy and will not be tolerated. Beneficiaries must only be identified and selected on the basis of poverty in their community.

**I thank you.**