



CABINET STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA
EMBARGO : IMMEDIATE

KZN CABINET CONCERN AT DA NKANDLA VISIT

Pietermaritzburg, 14 November 2012: Cabinet has noted with grave concern the ill-advised attempt by the Democratic Alliance purportedly to “inspect” President Jacob Zuma’s residence in Nkandla while initiatives led by King Goodwill Zwelithini are afoot to prevent the Province of KwaZulu-Natal from plunging back to the days of political violence.

The escalation in the number of murders involving members of the National Freedom Party, Inkatha Freedom Party and the African National Congress has heightened tensions in some parts of the Province despite the swift arrests of the culprits.

Two weeks ago His Majesty convened political, religious and traditional leaders to find urgent solutions to the problem to complement the work of the multi-party task team that has been appointed by the Provincial Government to facilitate peace dialogues among warring factions.

Towards this end, preparations are underway for a provincial peace prayer day in KwaNongoma later this year. It will involve cleansing ceremonies whereby all the families affected during the political violence in early 90s could forgive each other and commit to peace and stability.

Premier Dr Zweli Mkhize said: “In the midst of all these efforts, the last thing the Province needs is insensitivity around unwelcome visits to private homes. That is highly provocative in the environment we are in and we urge all parties to desist from it. We have learnt from previous experience that long after the unwelcome visitors have come and gone, the political climate in the area remains volatile. We have established the multi-party task team precisely to facilitate engagement among political parties to discourage this kind of activity. Peace and stability is critical to the growth and development of KwaZulu-Natal.”

Issued by the Office of the Premier on behalf of Cabinet

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