



Zikalala and the leadership of KZN government honour public servants who excelled in service

2022

KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Provincial Government honoured the public servants, who despite all odds, delivered service to KZN people. Premier Sihle Zikalala handed over Premier's Service Excellence Awards to appreciate the public servants, who went all out to deliver service despite the Covid-19 pandemic. The awards ceremony took place at Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre (ICC) in Durban.

The awards categories included Best Covid-19 Team during the National Lockdown, Best Public Health Facility during the Covid-19 pandemic, Best Frontline Service Delivery Employee of the Year and Best Public Service Innovator during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Zikalala said: "once again, allow me to pay tribute to all the shortlisted nominees for your dedication to your work and for going the extra mile to put a smile on the faces of our clients and stakeholders.

We celebrate you for treating our people, especially the vulnerable poor, with utmost respect and dignity. In you, we have a cadre of public service officials who respect themselves, value their work, and never treat clients with contempt and disdain as if they were doing them a favour. "

Zikalala described the awardees as officials that made the public service experience live up to the true meaning of Ubuntu.

These awards were initiated in KZN for the first time in 1999 to recognise and reward service excellence from the public officials. KZN recognised those public servants who were successfully implementing the Batho-Pele principles and enhancing Operation Sukuma Sakhe in the war rooms in all the districts.

This KZN initiative was later adopted by the national government in 2013 in the form of the National Batho Pele Excellence Awards led by the Department of Public Service and Administration. Winners in the provincial awards were entered to represent KZN in the national awards.

Zikalala said: "We take pride that the KwaZulu-Natal's Excellence Service Awards recognise employees in all categories – from general workers in a ward to senior government officials in all three spheres of government. All the men and women that we are honouring this evening are passionate about people's development and the progress of KwaZulu-Natal".

WORLD TB DAY
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Comments to: Tel: 033 341 3342 • zanele.damane@kznpremier.gov.za



(From left): MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Peggy Nkonyeni, Deputy Director-General: Corporate Management S'bu Ngubane, Deputy-Director General: Institutional Development and Integrity Management Zakhele Mnqayi, Acting Chief Financial Officer Sithembile Myeza, KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala and eThekweni Metro Municipality Speaker Thabani Nyawose when the BRONZE award was handed over to the Office of the Premier Poverty Eradication Master Plan Implementation in the category of the Best Implemented Programme or Project of the Year during the Premier's Service Excellence Awards.



KwaZulu-Natal Director-General Dr Nonhlanhla O. Mkhize handing over gifts to Spouse to KZN Premier Nelly Zikalala during the Premier's Service Excellence Awards





2018/2019 PREMIER'S SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

CATEGORY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION
1. Best Batho Pele Team of the Year	Shayamoya Secondary School – Kokstad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ixopo Service Centre Newcastle Cost Centre (DOT) Project Management Office (Department of Human Settlements) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charles Johnson Memorial Hospital Office of the Chief Financial Officer (KZNPT) Umkhanyakude District Office (Dept of Community Safety and Liaison); Uthukela District Office (DPW); Veterinary Services (DARD); 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sizakala Customer Centre (Ethekwini Municipality); Community Service Centre (COGTA) Tourism and Development Unit (EDTEA)
2. Best Public Service Innovator of the Year	Mr Xolani Phakathi – Department of Health	Mr Mackanlall Sathanand – Public Works	Ms Siphephelo Mhlongo – Public Works	Mr Bongzi Gcaba – Department of Health
3. Best Operational Employee of the Year	Ms Nosipho Mkhupheka - Department of Home Affairs	Mr Sithabiso Tshabalala – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development		Ms Hlengiwe Ngubane - Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Mr Xolani Phakathi – Department of Health
4. Best General Worker of the Year	Ms Ntombizodwa Mabaso – Department of Social Development (Dundee)	Ms Fikile Mayisela – Department of Social Development (Paulpietersburg)	Mrs Patricia Phungula - Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Mr Siyabonga Basi – Department of Human Settlement

**2018
2019**



AWARD WINNERS



2018/2019 PREMIER'S SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

5. Best Frontline Service Delivery Employee of the Year	Ms Nafisa Moidin – Department of Transport	Mr Goodwill Mabaso - Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ms Priscilla Mzelemu - Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Mr Senzo Msimango – Department of Social Development Ms Thokozile Ndawo - Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
6. Best Implemented Programme or Project of the Year	Greytown Hospital: Integrated Nutrition Programme - Department of Health	Umshwathi Municipality LG Seta Learnerships	OTP Poverty Eradication Master Plan Implementation	Mpophomeni Project – Department of Community Safety and Liaison
7. Best Run Municipality of the Year	Umshwathi Municipality	Okhahlamba Municipality	Mkhambathini Municipality	
8. Best Municipal Manager of the Year	Mr NM Mabaso – Umshwathi Municipality			
9. Best Provincial Department of the Year	Department of Social Development	Department of Arts and Culture	Department of Human Settlement	
10. Most Functional War Room of the Year	Umngeni Municipality Ward 4	Ophongolo Municipality Ward 5	uBuhlebezwe Municipality Ward 2	Big 5 Hlabisa Municipality ward 4

**2018
2019**



**AWARD
WINNERS**



2020/2021 PREMIER'S SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

1. Best District Command Council of the Year	Ethekwini District Command Council	King Cetshwayo District Command Council		
2. Best Implemented Project of the Year	Thabiso Sithole - Department of Sport & Recreation	Nombulelo Gebashe - Department of Social Development	Nonsikelelo Mathabela – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Siyethemba Kunene – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
3. Best Public Service Innovator of the Year	Lesley Thurtell – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Brookdale Primary School	Logandran Pillay – Department of Transport	Sagren Moodley – Ethekwini Municipality
4. Best Frontline Service Delivery Employee of the Year	Nomthandazo Msebeni – Department of Social Development	Jeffrey Malevu – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ziphozinhle Mkhize – Department of Social Development	Mandisa Magocoba – Department of Social Development
5. Best Covid 19 Team During National Lockdown	Ethekwini Municipality	Department of Community Safety & Liaison	Mondlo Service Office – Department of Social Development	Dundee Service Office – Department of Social Development
6. Best Communication Team During National Lockdown	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ethekwini Municipality	Department of Community Safety and Liaison	
7. Best General Worker of the Year	Philisiwe Dlamini – Department of Social Development Ixopo	Hlulizitha Buthelezi – Department of Social Development Nkandla	Busani Mthiya – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	Dumisani Ntshangase – Department of Social Development Ethekwini
8. Most Functional War Room	Ulundi Municipality War Room, Ward 24	Ethekwini Municipality War Room, Ward 20	Umfolozhi Municipality War Room, Ward 14	Newcastle Municipality War Room, Ward 9

**2020
2021**



**AWARD
WINNERS**



KwaZulu-Natal Government commemorates Human Rights Day and elevates Women's Rights as well



The KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government led by Premier Sihle Zikalala commemorated Human Rights Day at Ixopo Peace Hall at Harry Gwala District Municipality, where people were rallied to achieve social cohesion and a united province. The Human Rights Day was used to highlight progress made towards meeting the human rights needs of citizens and to also confronted failures that delayed human rights of citizens. The theme for this year's Human Rights Day was **the year of unity and renewal - protecting and preserving our human rights gains**. The Human Rights Day was a reminder of the Sharpeville Massacre, where police officers opened fire on a group of people peacefully protesting

oppressive pass laws, killing 69 innocent people. The Human Rights Day was a reminder of the Sharpeville Massacre. The anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre was a hallmark that every March 21 is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Zikalala urged community to work together to see to it that Women's Rights are protected so that there could be an end to gender-based violence and femicide. Zikalala was accompanied by Finance MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube, Transport Safety and Liaison MEC Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni, Education MEC Kwazi Mshengu, Health MEC Nomagugu Simelane, District and Local Municipality Mayors and Traditional Leaders

commemorating Human Rights Day at the Peace Initiative Hall in Ixopo. Zikalala said: "on Human Rights Day, we call on all stakeholders to contribute to the call for a creation of a new, model citizen of the province of KwaZulu-Natal. We see such a model citizen as a person who rejects and condemns the use of violence to address disagreements". He said that after 28 years into freedom and democracy, KZN continued to carry the infamy and stigma of being a violent province. The July 2021 deadly civil unrest which led to more than 300 people losing their lives, property destroyed, and economy in tatters could only add to the denting the reputation of the province.



“On this day, we invite cultural activists, religious leaders, our traditional leaders, civil society, and scholars to work closely with our communities to restore positive social values and Ubuntu. Let us use Human Rights Day to remember that Women’s Rights are also human rights. We are deeply disturbed by the

high levels of violence perpetrated against women and its gruesome nature. We must arrest this scourge that is defiling the gains of our hard-won democracy and is an assault on the dignity of women. In this area, we learned for instance of a man who set alight his partner in a shack fire.”



KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala gives a keynote address during the Human Rights Day.

Zikalala shines the spotlight on the rights of senior citizens

KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala hosted the Provincial Senior Citizens Summit at Anew Hotel in Hluhluwe. The Summit was held to shine the spotlight on the rights of senior citizens during human rights month.

It was aimed at drawing attention to various challenges and human rights abuses faced by senior citizens.

The summit also raised awareness of the nature of the rights violations and discrimination that people experience in their

old age, aid the development of programmes that are aimed at empowering senior citizens as well as ensure functional institutional mechanisms that will promote, protect and respect the rights of senior citizens.

Zikalala was accompanied by Transport Safety and Liaison MEC Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni, Social Development MEC Nonhlanhla Khoza, Health MEC Nomagugu Simelane, district and local municipality mayors, traditional leaders and faith-based leaders.



KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala addresses senior citizens during the Senior Citizens Summit held at the Anew Hotel in Hluhluwe.



After delivering a keynote address at the Senior Citizens on 21 March 2022, Premier Zikalala showered the elderly with gifts.



KZN Provincial Public Service Training Academy launches Championing Anti-Discrimination Training Programme in the public service



SPEAK UP STOP DISCRIMINATION

The Provincial Public Service Training Academy in partnership with the National School of Government officially launched the Championing Anti-Discrimination Training Programme in the public service.

The Anti-Discrimination Training Programme in the public service is in line with Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) Circular 11 of 2021 issued by the Minister of DPSA in December 2021. Senior Managers were targeted as the first cohort to attend the one-month online training programme.

KZN is the first province to officially launch this programme. About 34 senior managers from all Provincial Departments in KZN attended the launch whereby they gained further insight from the Principal of the National School of Government into the importance of attending this compulsory programme which is being offered by the National School of Government

Anti-Discrimination emerged as a major theme for the transformation of the public service. This online programme has been developed explicitly for public servants to intervene in and ultimately end discrimination in the public service, among public servants and by public servants against the public.

The purpose of this programme is to examine belief, attitudes, thinking and behaviour to strengthen public sector officials to be capable of combating discrimination wherever they may find it.

The Anti-Discrimination Training Programme forms part of the Medium-Term Strategic Framework target in Priority Six Cluster Plan of action on Social Cohesion.

About 100 senior managers from the provincial administration will be enrolled and attend the programme this year. Thereafter the programme will be extended to all other levels of staff. **Sally Reddy**



KZN aims to participate in the multi-trillion-dollar Halaal economy

KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Premier Sihle Zikalala spoke at a trade and investment dinner that marked the Trade and Investment Indaba and World Halaal Day at the INkosi Albert Luthuli Convention Centre (Durban ICC) on 22 March 2022.

The Halaal economy is a multi-trillion-dollar opportunity that captured the core of faith-based Muslim spend.

Sectors of the economy included food, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, modest fashion, Islamic finance among others.

The KZN Halal Initiative was started in 2015 through a feasibility study conducted by Trade and Investment KZN to investigate the scope of the trade and investment within the global Halal sector. KZN's route development strategy aimed at connectivity with lucrative Islamic

markets to establish business and tourism linkages. KZN now has direct flights exist between Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

Singapore was identified as a key medium-term target.

A Halaal-accredited infrastructure project for logistics was investigated in partnership with Dube TradePort. The study would explore the feasibility of the development of a Halaal accredited facility in the current air cargo terminal, that could facilitate the movement of Halaal perishable goods globally.

The value chains would be probed to find opportunities for business International linkages



KwaZulu-Natal Premier Sihle Zikalala accompanied by MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Ravi Pillay and MEC for Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation Hlengiwe Mavimbela, arrives at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre for the Trade & Investment KwaZulu-Natal Invest-