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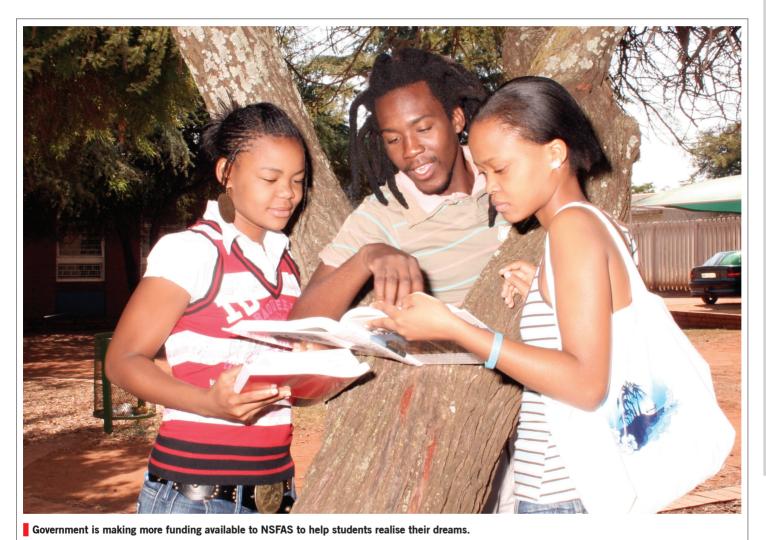


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R9 billion more for NSFAS



Amukelani Chauke

inance Minister Pravin Gordhan says financing higher education remains a top priority for government.

The Minister announced the 2016 medium-term budget at the National Assembly recently.

The medium-term budget is used to outline government interventions to tackle economic challenges and spending priorities over a three-year period.

Minister Gordhan said that while access to education had increased over the years, there were not enough resources to fund it. As a result, many students face financial hardships.

"In addition to the R16 billion added to higher education funding

"We have funded 1.7 million students since **NSFAS** started, at a cost of just over R59 billion."

Higher Education and Training budget allocation

2013/14 - R34.3 billion 2014/15 -R36.9 billion 2015/16 - R41.8 billion

in the February budget, we propose that a further R9 billion is allocated to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) in the period ahead, raising its funding by over 18 percent a year,"

The Minister added that over R8 billion will be used to meet the costs of fee increases for students from households with incomes up to R600 000.

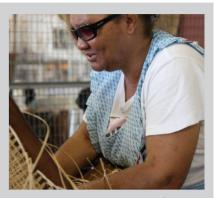
"We will work with the corporate sector and financial institutions to expand bursaries, loans and work opportunities for students.

"In seeking a balanced, sustainable roadmap for student finance, we appreciate that graduates who go on to earn higher incomes will in due course contribute a share of these gains to the next generation," he said.

Meanwhile, Higher Education and Training Minister Dr Blade Nzimande welcomed the additional funding.

He said that with the additional funding, government will be able to extend its reach to NSFAS deserving students who have tended to "fall through the cracks", despite the enormous investment that government has made since 1994.

"We have funded 1.7 million students since NSFAS started, at a cost of just over R59 billion. This was a huge commitment," he added. ■



KZN Society for the Blind changing lives



SKA area enters digital broadcasting space

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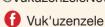








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CODY

Councillor's home a medicine pick-up point

A COUNCILLOR in KwaZulu-Natal is contributing to the healthcare of people in his community.



Councillor Greatman Thwala (centre) has opened up his home to bring health services closer to his community.

Noluthando Mkhize

he love of community work has led ward Councillor Greaterman Thwala to open up his home to be used as a pick-up point for chronic medication in Mndozo, Newcastle, Kwa-Zulu-Natal. His house is now known as the Philakahle Pick-up Point. Philakahle means live well in isiZulu.

"As a councillor, I enjoy

helping others as it is part of community work. I am happy to be able to help my community, especially since poverty is a serious challenge in the area."

He added that some community members can't afford transport money to go to the nearest clinic to fetch their chronic medication.

Thwala's gesture forms part of the Department of Health's Central Chronic Medicine Distribution and Dispensing (CCMDD) Programme that makes it possible for stable patients to collect their medication from a pick-up point near their home or work, saving time and money.

The Philakahle Pick-up Point is open Monday to Friday from 7am to 4pm, for patients registered with the Department of Health to pick up their chronic medication.

"We receive 30 to 40 patients a day who come for a variety of medications, ranging from ARVs and medication for mental illness to those for diabetes and hypertension."

The pick-up point is supported by assistant pharmacists, trained by Khethimpilo Non-Governmental Organisation. A system installed by Medi-Logistics detects patients who do not collect their medication and they can be tracked down by community caregivers.

KwaZulu-Natal Health MEC Sibongiseni Dhlomo said Thwala's efforts benefit the patients and the department.

"Most stable patients are not required to travel to a health facility monthly to collect their chronic medication.

It also assists the department to decongest public clinics, which provides space and time for nurses and doctors to attend to emergency cases," said MEC Dhlomo.

The MEC added that people across the province should inquire from their clinics about where to register to get enrolled at pick-up points closer to their homes.

FAST FACT

KwaZulu-Natal has 256 673 patients accessing care through pick-up points.

Kamberiwa vuvabyi bya chukele

byi le ku tlakukeni eAfrika-Dzonga na misava hinkwayo, kambe ku hatla byi kumeka na vutshunguri swi nga ha sivela makhombo yo tika.

Vuvabyi bya chukele byi va kona loko miri wu tsandzeka ku phurosesa chukele kahle. Chukele ri huma eka swakudya leswi hi swi dyaka. Vanhu vo tala va na vuvabyi bya chukele, kambe va tshama va nga va hlahluviwangi.

Muxaka wa1 wa vuvabyi bya chukele i vuvabyi byo hlasela masocha ya miri hi ntolovelo byi hlahluviwa eka vana na vanhu lavakulunyana; loko muxaka wa2 wa vuvabyi bya chukele byi nga ha vangiwa hi ku langa mahanyelo yo ka ya nga ri kahle naswona hi ntolovelo byi sungula eka

vanhu lavakulu. Vavasati va nga ha tlhela va va na vuvabyi bya chukele bya loko va tikile. Swa koteka ku hanya vutomi bya kahle hi ku tiva swikombo swa vuvabyi bya chukele hi xihatla, ku kuma nhlayiso wa swa vutshunguri lebyi faneleke na ku cincela eka mahanyelo ya kahle.

Siku ra Vuvabyi bya chukela ra Misava hinkwayo ri tlangeri-wa lembe rin'wana na rin'wana hi ti 14 Hukuri. Nhlokomhaka ya lembe leri i 'Nyingiso eka Vuvabyi bya chukele'. Xikongomelo i ku khutaza vanhu ku va va ya kamberiwa vuvabyi bya chukele na ku ala ku tshunguleka ka inisulini na ku tlakusa lemukiso mayelana na vuvabyi.

Xana i yini xi vangaka vuvabyi bya chukele?



MaAfrika-Dzonga ya fanele ku kamberiwa vuvabyi bya chukele na insulini leyi nga na mona.

Vuvabyi bya chukele hakanyingi byi vangiwa hi swakudya swo ka swi nga aki miri, leswi nga na mafurha na khabohayidireti ya le henhla. Antswiso, wa swakudya swa chukele swi nga ha hoxa xandla eka muxaka wa2 wa vuvabyi bya chukele, hi ku vanga ku nyuhela.

Ku tlula mamiliyoni ya nharhu ya MaAfrika-Dzonga ya khumbhiwa hi muxaka wa1 wa vuvabyi bya chukele, leswi hakanyingi ku nga xiyimo xa ku tekelela; kumbe muxaka wa2 wa vuvabyi bya chukele, lowu vangiwaka hi loko ku nga humesi insulini yo ringana kumbe miri wu tsandzeka ku angula eka yona.

Vuvabyi bya chukele lebyi nga lawulekiki byi nga ha vanga ku tsandzeka ka yinso, ku tshika ku tirha ka mbilu, ku tsemiwa swirho na xitiroku, eka ku tikeriwa kun'wana.

Swikombo swa ntolovelo:

- Ungatlulikumbekuhlwela ku dya
- Landzelerisa chukele ra ngati ya wena hilaha u lerisiweke hakona hi dokodela wa ndyangu wa wena
- Pima murhi hi vukheta naswona wu nwi hi nkarhi
- Hi ku tihlanganisa na dokodela wa wena, cinca murhi wa wena kumbe dyana swineke swo engetela loko u endla vutiolori.
- Hlayisa rhekhodo ya

- n'wangulo wa chukele ra le hansi rihi na rihi
- Famba u ri na swin'wana swa ku vutitivisi bya vuvabyi bya chukela leswaku van'wana va swi tiva leswaku u na vuvabyi bya chukela.

Swikombo leswi swi nga ka swi nga vi kona hinkwaswo, tanihileswi swi hambanaka hi munhu na munhu. Loko u ri na swikombo leswi swi kaneli na dokodela wa wena.

*Swi huma eka Xikimi xa Vutshunguri xa Vatirhela-Mfumo.

Switsundzuxo swo pfuna ku lawula chukele:

- U nga tluli kumbe ku hlwela ku dya
- Landzelerisa chukele ra ngati ya wena hilaha u lerisiweke hakona hi dokodela wa ndyangu wa wena
- Pima murhi hi vukheta naswona wu nwi hi nkarhi
- Hi ku tihlanganisa na dokodela wa wena, cinca murhi wa wena kumbe dyana swineke swo engetela loko u endla vutiolori.

Ku nyika matimba eka vanhu lava hanyaka na vutsoniwa

NHLANGANO WA NKAMBHINDZULO wu le ku nyikeni vanhu lava nga voniki na lava va hanyaka na vutsoniwa eMzingazi, eribuweni ra Iwandle en'walungwini wa KwaZulu-Natal, nkateko wo kuma vutshila na ku hanya vutomi byo antswa.



Nhlangano wa Vatsoniwa wa Nawe Zifunze wu le ku cinceni ka vutomi bya vanhu vo tala lava hanyaka na vutsoniwa.

Thandeka Ngobese

■hlangano wa Vatsoniwa wa Nawe Zifunze (NAZIDI), lowu tumbuluxiweke hi 2004, wu na swirho swa 80. Nhlangano a wu hlohloteli vanhu lava hanyaka na vutsoniwa ku va va lava ku nyikiwa swilo, kambe swo antswa i ku kuma swikili leswaku va ta kota ku hoxa xandla hi ndlela yo pfuna eka ikhonomi na ku hola

Nhlangano wu letela vanhu lava nga voniki na lava va hanyaka na vutsoniwa ku rhunga, ku baka, ku endla xirhapa, ntirho wo rhunga hi vuhlalu na ku lunghisa tiwhilichere.

Mutshamaxitulu wa nhlangano, Paradise Jali, loyi na yena a hanyaka na vutsoniwa, u vurile leswaku xikongomelo xa nhlangano i ku khutaza vanhu ku va va nga languti swiyimo swa vona.

"Ntiyiso wa leswaku hi hanya na vutsoniwa a swi vuli leswaku hi nga ka hi nga koti ku tiendlela swilo. Hi nga pfula na ku fambisa mabindzu ya hina na ku tirha kahle swinene eka leswi hi swi endlaka, loko hi nyikiwile swikiwili," u vurile.

Nhlangano wu sungurile phurojeke ya xirhapa.

"Ndzi lemukile leswaku vanhu lava hanyaka na vutsoniwa vo tala a va nga ri na swakudya emakaya ya vona

hikokwalaho hi sungurile ku byala na ku kurisa matsavu, yo fana na xipinichi, tikheroti, tibitirhuti na tinyala. Loko swirho swa hina swi ri karhi swi kula, hi bohile ku endla swilo swin'wana ehandle ka ku endla xirhapa," u vurile.

Namunthla nhlangano wu fambisa na ku sweka sopo loko xikolo xi humile eka vana lava loveriweke hi vatswari na vana lava nga

"Ntiyiso wa leswaku hi hanya na vutsoniwa a swi vuli leswaku hi nga ka hi nga koti ku tiendlela swilo."

sirhelelekangiki, phurojeke ya swa tihuku, vhengele ra Inthanete na phurojeke yo rhunga. Wu tlhela wu hangalasa maphasele ya swakudya na swiambalo eka vanhu lava nga swela na ku nyika swikili swa vutomi na vuleteri bya khomphyutara.

"Hi tlhela hi dyondzisa vutshila bya swa mavoko, byo fana na mitirho yo rhunga hi vuhlalu. Hi pfuna vanhu lava hanyaka na vutsoniwa emugangeni hi swilo swo pfuna, swo fana na tiwhilichere na tinhonga to famba hi tona. Hi pfuna na ku hundzisela vanhu lava nga na swikombelo swa midende ta vanhu ku ya eka Ndzawulo ya Nhluvukiso wa Vanhu," u vurile.

Sweswinyana Zoni ya Nhluvukiso wa Vumaki ya Richards Bay (RBIDZ) yi nyikerile michini yo rhunga eka nhlangano.

"Ku kurisa swikili na vuswikoti bya ku va na muholo eka vanhu lava nga swela i xiphemu xa nkoka xa ku aka rixaka laha RBIDZ yi tiboheke kona," ku vurile Khanyi Dlamini, Mufambisi wa Tiphurojeke to Hlawuleka na CSI. **U**

KZN Society for the Blind changing lives

THE KWAZULU-NATAL Society for the Blind is making a difference in the lives of visually impaired people in the province, with more than 200 visually impaired people now able to provide for their families.

Thandeka Ngobese

he society trains visually impaired people (including the partially and completely blind) in the production of cane furniture and baskets and assists them to sell their products for a profit. It also has an early childhood development centre for visually impaired pre-schoolers and offers braille literacy and telephony training.

Speaking to Vuk'uzenzele, Kenneth Ngwenya, the manager of the cane workshop, said people are empowered with skills, which helps them to open their own businesses.

"The cane workshop has been training people as cane weavers for the past six years and there are 64 qualified

"Our communities think that if you are blind you cannot work."

weavers on site in Umbilo.

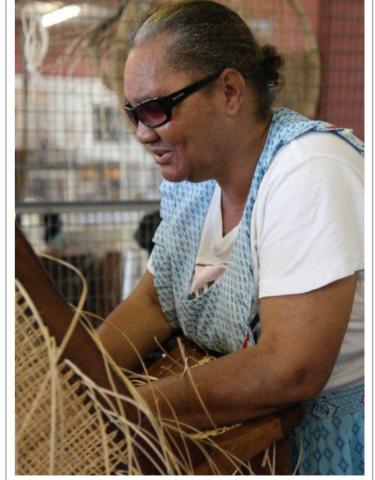
"The workshop offers a variety of cane items for sale to the public, including furniture such as coffee tables, chairs, sofas and cribs," said Ngwenya.

Nonhlanhla Ngidi, an employee in the furniture section, joined the society in 2010. She lost her eyesight in 1990 after both eyes were severely affected by cataracts. Being part of the society has assisted her to do something with her hands to improve her life.

"I am able to earn money to buy a few items for home. I am also able to do something for myself," she said.

In the weaving section, baskets are formed and shaped mostly by young people, who are all completely blind.

Zwelenkosi Mkhize, an employee in this section who



Visually impaired people in KwaZulu-Natal are learning invaluable skills.

was born with poor eyesight; is grateful for the opportunity that the society provides.

"Our communities think

that if you are blind you cannot work. I always tell a blind person that being blind is not the end of life," he said. ■



HINKWASWO LESWI U LAVAKA KU SWI TIVA MAYELANA NA KU TIMIWA KA ANALOGO (ASO)

1. Xana ASO yi yimele yini?

ASO yi yimele ku Timiwa ka Analogo.

2. Xana ASO swi vula yini?

Yl phurosese yo tima siginali ya thelevhixini ya analogo. Loko se siginali ya analogo yi timiwile, yi ta siviwa hi siginali ya dijitali.

3. Xana ASO yi ta khumbha njhani mavonelo ya mina ya TV?

Loko u ri hava Set Top Box (STB) kumbe dikhoda, a wu nge swi koti ku vona TV ya wena.

4. Xana STB i yini?

I xitirho lexi tivekaka hi ku olova tanihi dikhoda, lexi amukelaka siginali ya dijitali na analogo.

5. Xana ndzi lava yini ku kuma STB?

Ku na tindlela timbirhi to kuma STB:

- · Makete wo nyikiwa mpfuno
- · Makete wo tixavela.

6. Xana ndzi ta swi tiva njhani loko ndzi wela ehansi ka makete wo nyikiwa mpfuno kumbe wo tixavela?

Makete wo nyikiwa mpfuno:

 Muti wun'wana na wun'wana lowu nga eka ndhawu ya Xihondzo xa Mpfhuka wa Xikwere (SKA) wu fikelela mpfuno wa mfumo wa STB.

Eka lava va nga ehandle ka ndhawu ya SKA, swilaveko leswi landzelaka swa tirha:

- U fanele ku va u ri muaka tiko wa Afrika-Dzonga
- U fanele ku va u hola muholo wa ndyangu wa le hasi ka R3 200.

Endzela rhavi ra Hofisi ya Poso ya Afrika-Dzonga ya le ku suhi na wena ku titsarisela mpfuno wa mfumo wa STB u ri na matsalwa lawa ya landzelaka: Pasi, vumbhoni bya vutshamiso na vumbhoni bya muholo kumbe xihlambanyo xa vumbhoni.

Makete wa nxaviso xin'wexin'we:

• Loko u hola ku tlula R3 200, u fanele ku tixavela STB ya wena eka mavhengele ya nxaviso xin'wexin'we. Mahungu ya ta haxiwa eka xiyanimoya, TV na maphephahungu xikan'wekan'we loko ti-STB ti va kona.

7. Xana i mani a nga laviki STB?

Munhu wihi na wihi loyi sweswi a vonaka TV hi ku tirhisa dikhoda xik. DStv, Open-View na MNet.

8. Xana i yini ku lumeka kambirhi?

Ku lumeka kambirhi i nkarhi eka vuhaxi bya ndzhurho wa dijitali laha hatimbirhi tisiginali ta analogo na ta dijitali ti haxaka hi nkarhi wun'we.

9. Xana Afrika-Dzonga ri le ka goza ra ku lumeka kambirhi?

Ina, nkarhi wa ku lumeka kambirhi wu sungurile hi ti1 Nyenyenyana 20.

Tihlanganise na Senthara ya tiqingho ya Go Digital 0800 11 11 88 Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo.

Zwi Khou Itea! Swa karhi swa endleka!









SKA area enters digital broadcasting space



Ntambeleni Gabara

esidents in the core towns of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) area recently became the first South Africans to enter the digital broadcasting space in the country.

FAST FACT

The migration to the broadcasting digital system is expected to be complete by December 2018.

Communications Minister Faith Muthambi recently turned off the analogue television transmission, and over 3 700 households in the towns of Carnarvon, Vanwyksvlei, Brandvlei, Vosburg and Williston have been successfully migrated to the much-awaited digital platform.

"We have moved from analogue to digital and the chapter has been closed in this area. We will be doing this in phases, in all nine provinces.

"Turning off the analogue terrestrial TV transmission meant that a digitalised era of high-definition TV has come for our people in the SKA area."

The analogue switch off is the process in which analogue television broadcasting is converted to and replaced with digital television.

Digital broadcasting is far more efficient, allows better picture and sound quality and once analogue transmissions are switched off, a large amount of radio frequency spectrum will be released. This can then be used for new broadcasting and other communications services, such as broadband.

Minister Muthambi said she is looking to complete the process of migrating to the broadcasting digital system by December 2018.

Registrations are underway in the Free State, Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces. Poor households who qualify for the government subsidy are urged to register for free set-top boxes at their local Post Office.

Registrations will open in the North West, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape and Gauteng at a later stage.

The department established the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Contact Centre to assist South African audiences with DTT support, by channelling all queries to the relevant digital migration stakeholders.

The DTT Contact Centre has been instrumental in ensuring that an average of 99 percent of activations within the Northern Cape's SKA areas.

For more information, call the Go Digital
Call Centre on
0800 11 11 88.