



ANSWERS: Ministers Thulas Nxesi and Siyabonga Cwele. PICTURE: HERBERT MATIMBA

Nkandla referred to public protector

THE Christian Democratic Party (CDP) yesterday said it was referring a document on President Jacob Zuma's Nkandla home to the public protector.

CDP leader Theunis Botha said: "Levels of mismanagement of taxpayers' money have become such a daily occurrence that it seems as though government believes it has now been let off the hook.

"Too many questions remain unanswered. The fact remains that far too much money was spent and covered up as supposedly security measures."

On Sunday Public Works Minister Thulas Nxesi announced the findings of an investigation into the money spent on Nkandla.

He said the government spent R206m on security upgrades and consultants.

Included in this amount was R135m for "operational needs", R71m for consultants and security features such as bulletproof windows, security fencing, evacuation mechanisms and fire fighting equipment, he told reporters in Pretoria.

Also included in the total was R26m to make changes to the project (variation orders).

Botha said a document about Nkandla was circulated in numerous emails.

This was the document the CDP would refer to public protector Thuli Madonsela, he said.

According to this document R1.5bn, which included the Nkandla highway, was actually spent.

Botha could not say who wrote the document.

"We feel it is vital that the public protector evaluate the validity of the claims in the email before completing the Nkandla investigation," he said.

"Accusations of such a kind have to be investigated. If what is in it is true it's very serious.

"If people are spreading rumours they need to be brought to book on it," said Botha.

"South Africans deserve to be informed about what is really taking place." - Sapa

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