

The state of the provinces

2013

After President Jacob Zuma's state of the nation address, the nine provinces had their turn.

Gauteng

Premier Nomvula Mokonyane promised a massive job boost. In her state of the province address this week, she said 196 000 job opportunities will be created through the expanded Public Works programme – which created 151 000 opportunities last year. “We have assisted more than 5 500 young people through arranging internships in the public and private sector,” she said.

Also, government had filled 5 241 vacancies. Major investments will be made to reconstruct and rehabilitate roads. Billions will also be spent on infrastructure, including new train coaches, and Eskom over the next five years.

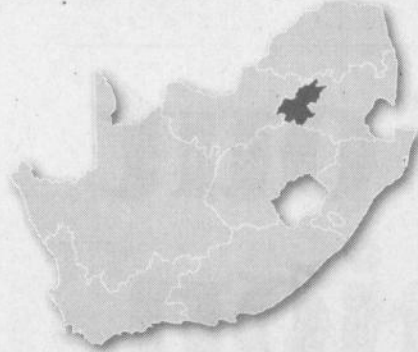
Mokonyane said a health system turnaround has been implemented to focus on key hospitals.



Nomvula Mokonyane

FIVE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Eighty percent of Gauteng residents live in formal housing
- Ninety-eight percent of households have access to running water
- Of Gauteng's 1.2 million HIV-positive residents, 900 000 are on antiretroviral treatment
- R13 billion committed for capital projects over the next three years
- R127 million raised from the jobs fund



– Dumisane Lubisi

North West

The province will spend R200 million fixing, maintaining and rehabilitating poor roads this year, Premier Thandi Modise promised.

In her provincial address, she said she had added another 15 roads to the 10 economic road arteries identified by President Jacob Zuma in need of revamping. With more than half of the 24 municipalities failing to submit books for auditing by the Auditor-General last year, Modise said that a turnaround strategy had been developed to change the state of municipalities.

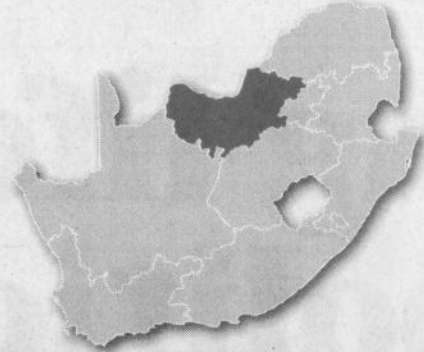
Merit will be the determining factor when appointments are made to help improve on audit reports. Modise said the poaching of rhino – which increased from 21 in 2011 to 77 last year – was being treated as a priority crime.



Thandi Modise

FIVE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Households with access to basic electricity: 826 000
- Households with access to water: 914 000
- A backlog of 140 000 households are without tap water. This will end in March next year
- More than R1.2 billion will be spent on 15 230 new housing units
- Six mud schools have been replaced with proper brick-and-mortar schools, and more renovations are expected



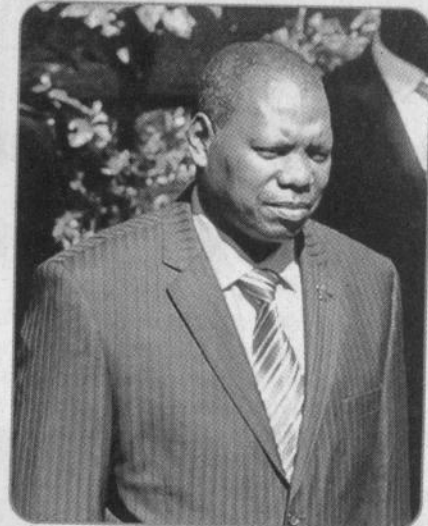
– Sabelo Ndlangisa

KwaZulu-Natal

Premier Zweli Mkhize says government will use massive infrastructure development to create jobs. The extension of the port of Durban has a R100 billion budget. Four regional airfields are being revamped, while high-speed passenger rail links between Durban and Pietermaritzburg will be introduced.

Several bulk-water supply projects, including dam construction, valued at R2.1 billion are under way. The province is also gearing itself to go green. At Richards Bay, the Industrial Development Zone has secured infrastructure investment of around R3.5 billion in addition to the R1.2 billion Tata Steel manufacturing plant.

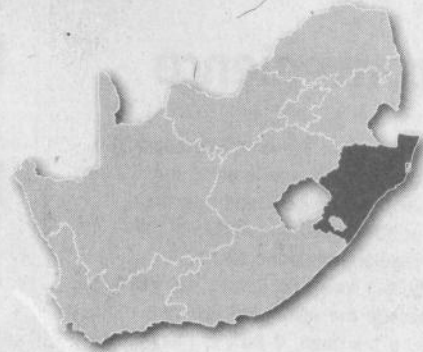
A new R450 million logistic supply park for the automotive industry will be built in the South Durban Basin.



Zweli Mkhize

FIVE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Households with access to electricity: 76.7%
- HIV-positive residents on antiretroviral treatment: 550 000
- Jobs created through the province's expanded public works programme: 89 455
- Totally unproductive hectares of land given back to communities through land claims: 108 960
- Hectares of land under communal control: 3.3 million



– Paddy Harper