

Students who owe can still register

By **KGOMOTSO MEDUPE**

HIGHER Education Minister Naledi Pandor has thrown students in debt a lifeline.

During a media briefing at her offices in Tshwane last week, Pandor said no NSFAS qualifying student who was registered last year and passed should be prevented from registering this year due to outstanding fees.

She said students in good academic standing who have debt and qualify for the funding should sign an acknowledgement of debt form.

“I’m working closely with NSFAS and institutions to ensure these measures are put in place at universities,” she said.

Pandor called for an end to violence and disruptions at universities and colleges.

“We need to build a productive, inclusive and suitable university system,” she said.

Pandor pledged to do whatever it takes to support higher education.

She said her department had allocated R30,8 billion to help financially needy students at universities and TVET colleges.

She said R4,1 billion had been allocated to student housing.

“The department is also working with the departments of human settlements and public works to explore options for off-campus social housing.”



Minister Naledi Pandor. Photo by Morapedi Mashashe