

Media Statement on the arrests of 'Department of Health Officials'

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 25 AUGUST 2010
EMBARGO: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Today; an intergovernmental task team set up by KwaZulu-Natal Cabinet to investigate corruption, fraud and related acts of misconduct in the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health; received reports from the HAWKS that they have arrested three officials who were once linked to the department.

Last year in August; the MECs for Health and Finance (Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo and Mrs. Ina Cronje) announced a turnaround strategy which sought to bring the books of the department to balance. This followed over expenditure incurred by the department of over 2 billion rands in two consecutive financial years.

“As part of the strategy is to eliminate corruption, fraud and such misconducts which were bleeding the department dry” says the MEC for Health, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, on hearing the news of the arrests.

To date a number of people have been dismissed, others on suspension and many cases at advanced stages of completion. Today, the 'HAWKS' are announcing the arrests of three officials some of whom are in the employ of the department.

“We must really thank the public and staff who have assisted our team to find the corrupt elements. Our efforts to root-out corruption in the department will never be shaken and the people’s support assures us that we are on the right track. This is just a tip of an iceberg, more arrest are expected” the MEC concluded.

ENDS
ISSUED BY:

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION
KWAZULU-NATAL: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH