



**KWAZULU-NATAL
LEGISLATURE**
AN ACTIVIST PEOPLE-CENTRED LEGISLATURE

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Representing the Democratic Alliance KZN:

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and in the Zululand South Constituency

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12 October 2020

The KZN Premier
Hon S. Zikalala, MPL
Per email

Dr EV Nzama HOD of the KZN Department of Education

Sir,

The appointment and therefore the suspension of HOD' s is a matter within your authority. Given this, the subject matter refers yet again. This follows correspondence sent to you on 25 August 2020.

I am certain that you have had sight of the full report into the skullduggery that went on in the Sanitary Pad matter. I am also certain that by now you would have had enough time to thoroughly go through the report and you would have also had the opportunity to be sincerely and completely briefed by Hon KI Mshengu and officials.

I attach an annexure to this letter in which you will see Dr Nzama' s request to treasury for almost R110 million. There are several other documents in the report bearing his signature and approvals. All of which points to not only his direct knowledge of everything that went on, but also his authorization and `stamp of approval' . Without a doubt, he would also have had to interact with the likely initiator of the project in KZN – The former MEC for Education.

I am not sure if this matter has ever served before cabinet, whether in this term or even the previous. You will know given your tenure in the previous one and that you preside over this one.

The summary report into what is clearly the looting of state funds, skirts around directly implicating the HOD. The full report on the other hand, does not, as far as I can tell. Given this, I write once more to call upon you to suspend the HOD of Education, if the right thing is to be done.



Any further investigation into this matter cannot have him remain at the helm of the department. Any participation by the HOD as a witness against any of the officials also implicated cannot be regarded as valid given his own role as the accounting officer [PFMA 44(2)(d)] as demonstrated in the full report. If he has already given testimony/ participated, then the chance that the process is already compromised is very plausible. Can any outcome following this be declared to be just and fair? I do not think so. I am also worried that given these circumstances, any legal challenge by any other accused party will result in unnecessary expenditure by the state in defense of a possibly flawed process. It is up to you to take the steps to mitigate against this and act, lest you are later blamed for not acting when you could and should.

I believe, as was mentioned in the preceding correspondence to you, that this the call to suspend the HOD does not come lightly. But it is the right thing to do at this point in time. Should he be cleared of all complicity, then everyone will be better off knowing there is no cloud hanging over his head.

I am hopeful that you will give this matter the serious consideration it deserves and that I will be able to get a response from you on or before Friday, 16 October 2020.

Best regards,

Dr Imran Keeka, MPL