

THE NEW AGE

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STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS President Jacob Zuma

2011: A year of action

Ricky Naidoo

IN HIS State of the Nation speech last year, President Jacob Zuma declared: "Our goal is clear. We want to have a country where millions more South Africans have decent employment opportunities, which has a modern infrastructure and a vibrant economy, and where the quality of life is high."

Reflecting on this declaration, how did the government really perform on the delivery of its promises? To ensure that these promises were delivered, the Department of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation was created in the Presidency. Minister Collins Chabane was tasked with the responsibility of ensuring that progress was made.

A further boost to the government's drive to accelerate delivery on its promises was the finalisation

of the National Development Plan by the National Planning Commission in the Presidency.

Job creation, one of the government's key priorities, remains pivotal. In this regard, large-scale projects such as electricity plants, rail and road upgrades, and water management projects were introduced to create and sustain up to 100 000 jobs in the construction industry until 2015.

Other key job creation projects included the establishment of a R9bn jobs fund to encourage new initiatives both inside and outside of government, the establishment of more than 300 cooperatives under the comprehensive rural development programme and 521 831 job opportunities created through the expanded public works programme. The finalisation of the Skills Accord between government and business to train

30 000 artisans created further impetus for job creation.

In the area of cooperative governance, cooperation with provincial administrations improved considerably because of regular meetings of the President, premiers and local government representatives in the President's Coordinating Council.

In the fight against crime and corruption, official statistics reveal that violent crimes are on the decline. Last year, a 5.75% reduction was achieved for serious crimes and a 9.65% drop was recorded for contact crimes.

The government has further demonstrated that it is serious about the fight against corruption and ensuring clean governance. To date, 22 proclamations have been issued by the President authorising the Special Investigating Unit to conduct investigations.

Most of these focus on procurement-related irregularities, as it is a major priority for the government to deal with corruption in procurement and to ensure better value for money. A commission of inquiry into the arms deal was also established to probe allegations of corruption.

In its quest to deliver quality health care, government has made progress in various areas. It has singled out the fight against HIV and Aids. In 2009, ground breaking measures to fight HIV and Aids, relating to testing, treatment and support, were implemented. Last year, the national HIV counselling and testing campaign was launched. More than 13 million people were tested for HIV and more than 8 million were screened for TB. From January 2010 to September 2011, the number of public health facilities

initiating patients on antiretroviral treatment increased from 495 to 2948. A landmark achievement for government is the 50% reduction in mother-child transmission of HIV between 2008 and 2010.

In the area of rural development and land reform, one of the biggest success stories is the piloting of small rural towns' revitalisation. Two pilot projects are underway at the Prince Albert Hamlet and in Dysselsdorp. A National Rural Youth Service Corp in Dysselsdorp was launched involving 7 956 young people from rural communities. The government's school nutrition scheme now reaches 8.6 million pupils.

Social grants remain the cornerstone of the fight against poverty affecting children and older persons. These now reach more than 15 million individuals.

The informal settlements

upgrading programme has exceeded its target by providing services to 52 383 sites against a target of 27 054 sites.

The Housing Development Agency is now fully operational. To date, the agency has acquired 309 land properties. Provincial departments have acquired an additional 4 944.5ha of land in support of government's initiatives to provide sustainable human settlements.

In the field of international relations, the objective of a better life for the people of South Africa, the continent of Africa and the world at large, formed the cornerstone of government policy. The government hosted a successful COP17/CMP7 UN Climate Change Conference in Durban.

The African Agenda also remains a key policy focus, with South Africa serving a two-year

term on the AU peace and security council. South Africa also assumed the chair of the Southern African Development Community organ on politics, defence and security and the Presidential Infrastructure Championship Initiative. South Africa also played a pivotal role in the birth of South Sudan. Peacekeeping operations involving a total of 2 304 South African National Defence Force members were undertaken in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan and the Central African Republic.

The achievements of the government were substantial. Although there are still challenges, performance of the government in the past year provides renewed hope to the nation that the quest for a better life for all is indeed becoming a reality.

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Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

President Jacob Zuma



JOB CREATION

Job creation still a high priority

President Zuma has once again underlined the importance of getting more people working

Tlalane Tshetlo

FOR the second year running, job creation remains a priority for the government and the private sector.

Last year in his State of the Nation address, President Jacob Zuma again mentioned the need for more jobs for South Africans.

President Zuma said he was concerned that unemployment and poverty persisted despite the economic growth of the past 10 years. To resolve this concern, he declared 2011 a year of job creation through meaningful economic transformation and inclusive growth.

"We have introduced the New Growth Path that will guide our work in achieving these goals, working within the premise that the creation of decent work is at the centre of our economic policies," President Zuma said in his state of the nation speech last year.

Research had indicated that jobs needed to be created in infrastructure development, agriculture, mining and beneficiation, manufacturing, the green economy, and tourism.

"We cannot create these jobs alone. We have to work with business, labour and community constituencies," President Zuma said.

"Experience shows we succeed when we work together."

Some of the initiatives the government put in place last year include the R9bn Jobs Fund, which is aimed at encouraging new initiatives both inside and outside of the government, and the establishment of more than 300 cooperatives under the comprehensive rural development

quick facts

GOVERNMENT job creation initiatives include:

- » a R9bn Jobs Fund to encourage new initiatives both inside and outside of the government
- » establishing more than 300 cooperatives under the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme
- » 521 831 work opportunities were created by the end of October through the Expanded Public Works Programme
- » job opportunities for more than 80 000 people under the Community Work Programme
- » 15 132 jobs created under the LandCare, Forestry Operations, Micro-Agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa, Working for Fisheries and Comprehensive Agricultural Support programmes
- » a further 83 791 job opportunities created in all nine provinces across

programme.

In addition, 521 831 jobs were created by the end of October last year through the expanded public works programme. Furthermore, 80 000 people were employed under the community work programme.

Between April and September last year, another 83 791 jobs were created across the nine provinces in 63 municipalities.

Compared with the prior year, employment increased 2.6%, adding 342 000 jobs, according to the Labour Force Survey for July to September 2011.

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FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE: Construction workers in Ivory Park.

Picture: HERBERT MATIMBA

Infrastructure Development Cluster



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» The Presidency: National Planning Commission

» Transport

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State's infrastructure builds prosperity

Michael Appel

WITH 2011 having been declared the year of job creation by government, mass infrastructure development took a front seat on the government agenda.

Despite economic conditions which have raised the cost of importing materials, government managed to invest in a number of large-scale developments including electricity plants, rail and road upgrades and water management that will sustain between 50 000 and 100 000 jobs in the construction sector up to 2015.

By the end of October, about 520 000 work opportunities had been created through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) with a further 80 000 jobs under the Community Work Programme. The Square Kilometre Array Project, that made headlines around the world, created 600 EPWP jobs.

Infrastructure development remains at the heart of the government's plans to grow the country. Massive investments were made in 2011 and include the city of Johannesburg spending more than R1.6bn in implementing the Bus Rapid Transport System. Cape Town spent more than R70m and Nelson Mandela Bay about R300m.

Nine regional bulk water systems were constructed in Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape and now benefit about 744 000 people. The much-awaited Gautrain route between

Tshwane and Rosebank came on line in 2011.

CEO of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE), Manglin Pillay, believes the state has invested billions of rands in landmark projects that are world class. The 2010 FIFA World Cup stadiums are a testament to what is possible when political will is aligned with technical expertise in the private and public sector. The Gautrain is another such example.

Pillay said: "Between 1997 and 2010, government, driven by the late Kader Asmal, managed to successfully provide potable water to more than 10 million South Africans. This has never been achieved anywhere else in the world."

In the SAICE's Infrastructure Report Card for South Africa: 2011, it reported that the state of a nation's physical infrastructure provided one of the best indicators of its likely prosperity. For economic activity to be profitable, efficient and functioning systems of transport, energy, water and waste management and social infrastructural services were essential.

And there is a positive relationship between buildings, infrastructure and human wellbeing. Well-designed and maintained public buildings and infrastructure contribute significantly to good social relationships, reduced crime and increased productivity.

Pillay said that since 1994, massive strides had been made in the



INFRASTRUCTURE: Construction workers worked through the night to get the roads in Johannesburg ready for the FIFA World Cup 2010.

Picture: GALLO IMAGES

provision of basic services and associated infrastructure, such as water, sanitation, energy and transportation, but that a lack of maintenance remained a problem.

"South Africa has, by proportion of population, up to 20 times

less engineers than Australia, America, Western Europe, India and China. The racial profile of engineers remains largely white and male. Government has prioritised increasing the number of engineers, but it will need a multifaceted approach starting with

urgent attention to mathematics and physical science education. Training and mentorship of artisans and young engineering professionals is also essential at all levels, especially in the public sector," he said.

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Infrastructure projects creating employment

Michael Appel

THE government, through the prioritisation of infrastructural development, is one of the biggest employers in the country.

Working on repairing road infrastructure in Tembisa, Bester Makgola of Hezeki Contractors said the government was putting food on his table and a roof over his head. "The government has provided me with this work opportunity and I have been on contract in Tembisa fixing roads for the past four months now."

While Makgola is grateful to the government for its infrastructure development campaign, he is hopeful that this year it will go further to ensure more jobs are created.

Increased wages was another issue Makgola touched on as he believes that a decent day's work should be rewarded with a decent day's pay.

One of the construction workers on Makgola's team, Edward Luthuli, said: "I am so happy to have a job as I can support my family and stay out of trouble, but I know many people who also need employment."

"Job creation is the one crucial issue that government needs to deal with. A lot of people turn to crime as there is just nothing else for them to do."

Luthuli believes that creating more jobs will result in a decrease in crime. He also urged the government to tackle issues facing the poorest of the poor.

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JOB CREATION: Construction workers busy building a road in Batho township.

Picture: GETRUDE MAKHAFOLA

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

President Jacob Zuma



EDUCATION

Basic education hastens delivery



IMPROVING MATRIC PASSES: Deputy Minister of Basic Education Enver Surty and Minister of Basic Education Angie Motshekga display the overall 2011 matric pass rate.



HAPPY CHAPS: Good matric results mean these students are all ready for life after school. Picture: REFENTSE SEBOTHOMA

Call to invest in calibre of teachers, teaching material and what's taught in classroom

BASIC Education is on track to deliver on the national priority of an improved quality of basic education as per mandate of the ruling party and directives of President Jacob Zuma in the State of the Nation Address. Working closely with teacher unions, the Department has increased focus on teacher development to advance 'the Triple Ts' – teachers, textbooks and time. The Integrated Strategic Planning Framework for Teacher Education and Development, a product of the 2009 national Teacher Development Summit, was launched in 2011. The curriculum review process has been completed. Teachers and subject advisors have been trained on expected outcomes of the new and simplified curriculum. Every subject in each grade now has a single concise Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS) providing specific content on what teachers

ought to teach. There has been progress on providing learning and teaching support materials for better learning outcomes. In 2011, high-quality workbooks were provided to millions of learners; books were produced in all South African languages. Workbooks were developed in synchronisation with the new CAPS. The Department administered the first widescale Annual National Assessments involving millions of learners in 2011 to diagnose problems and determine steps for intervention so as to improve, among other things, performance in literacy and numeracy, with special focus on the foundation phase. In 2011, the Council of Education Ministers approved an Integrated National Literacy and Numeracy Strategy as part of the Department's response to the need for urgency in addressing low achievement levels.



THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE: Excited pupils gear up for another day of concentrated learning.

There is progress on school infrastructure. Through the Department's Accelerated School Infrastructure Delivery Initiative, contractors have been appointed for the construction of schools in Lusikisiki, Libode and Umtata regions. Contractors have been given a period of 7 months to complete all schools. Contractors have also been appointed for the provision of water and sanitation to schools in the Eastern Cape and Limpopo. KwaZulu-Natal has

started implementing projects which are at a construction stage. Other provinces are also engaged in school infrastructure projects including Gauteng and Free State. In line with the imperative to make education a societal issue, the Department initiated training and preparations for the School Governing Body (SGB) election process, in partnership with the Independent Electoral Commission. These elections will be conducted in all provinces in March 2012. SGBs will help in improving school governance and mobilising communities to support education in accordance with goals of the Quality Learning & Teaching Campaign and the NEDLAC Accord on Basic Education and Partnership with schools. There was targeted intervention in all underperforming schools, in order to design remedial and improvement programmes for learning and teaching. The Department has consistently increased the matric pass rate which now stands at 70.2%.

quick facts

- EDUCATION highlights include:**
- » Reaching 8,6 million learners with the School Nutrition Programme
 - » 24 million Grade 1 - 6 language and mathematics workbooks to 18 854 primary schools in nine provinces
 - » Providing about 2 700 pupils with supplementary tuition in mathematics, physical science, English in 2010
 - » Registered early childhood development (ECD) sites increased to 19 000 and the number of children benefiting from ECD services to 790 000
 - » The National Student Financial Aid Scheme of South Africa's turnaround strategy was put in place and resulted in a clean audit



NEW YEAR: Gauteng Education MEC Barbara Creecy and principal Takalani Ndou, decorate Steve Tshwete Middle School in Olivenhoutbosch.



FIXING THE FUTURE: MEC Barbara Creecy in action.

The South African SCORECARD

Country Size: 28th in the world, by population and GDP	"Big Mac" index: 11th out of 60 countries
Local currency versus the US dollar: Second best in the world	Rail network: World's 18th longest
Most democratic: Ranked 43rd out of 150 countries (ahead of China, India, Brazil, Russia)	Road network: World's 15th biggest
Size of gold reserves: 24th out of 92 countries	Electricity production: World's 19th biggest
Protection of investors: 10th out of 192 countries	Budget: South Africa's Open Budget index score in 2010 was 92 out of 100, which is the highest score of the 94 countries surveyed
Size of exports: 41st out of 192 countries	Nation brand: The most valuable on the continent in 2011 according to UK-based Brand Finance
Press freedom: 41 out of 176 countries (higher than France, Italy, Spain, as well as Portugal)	Tourism: Voted the ninth best destination in the world
	Corruption: The 40th least corrupt nation according to the World Audit Survey

Source: BRAND SA

Human Development Cluster



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HEALTH

Major successes in fighting HIV/Aids

Ina Skosana

ONE area in health that has shown major success rates is the fight against HIV-Aids.

In his 2011 New Year's message President Jacob Zuma said more than 8 million people were screened for tuberculosis (TB) between April 2010 and June 2011 and more than 300 000 people were placed on preventative treatment to stop the activation of TB.

South Africa has the highest number of people living with HIV in the world and the resources pumped into HIV-Aids testing, counselling and education are now paying off.

"All public health facilities in South Africa now offer services to pregnant women, including HIV testing. A landmark achievement for our country is the 50% reduction in the transmission of HIV from mothers to children between 2008 and 2010."

The proportion of children whose mothers are HIV-positive, and who were infected, decreased in 2010.

The new national strategic plan to fight HIV, sexually transmitted infections and TB was launched in December 2011.

Goals outlined in the plan are to reduce new HIV infections by at least 50% using a combination of prevention approaches; to initiate at least 80% of eligible patients on ARTs, with 70% alive and on treatment five years after initiation.

Government aims to reduce the number of new TB infections as well as deaths from TB by 50% to ensure an enabling and accessible legal framework that protects and promotes human rights to support implementation of the national strategic plan and reduce self-reported stigma related to HIV and TB by at least 50%.

Since the December 2010 launch of the HIV counselling and testing campaign 13 million people agreed to be tested for HIV.

"A total of 2 948 public health facilities are now initiating patients on antiretroviral treatment compared to 495 in January 2010," President Zuma revealed in his message.

According to President Zuma's speech, 1.6 million patients had been initiated on ART by September 2011.

As for the National Health Insurance (NHI) policy and implementation plan, the green paper was released for public comment.



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP: Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi launches a Batho Pele mobile clinic in Kuruman in conjunction with the local community and NGOs.

quick facts

» 13 million people agreed to be tested for HIV through the HIV Counselling and Testing Campaign, launched in 2010.

» 2 948 public health facilities are now initiating patients on antiretroviral treatment (ART), compared to a paltry 495 in January 2010.

» 1.6 million patients had been initiated on ART by September 2011.

» All public health facilities in South Africa now offer services to pregnant women, including HIV testing. A landmark achievement for our country is the 50% reduction in the transmission of HIV from mothers to children between 2008 and 2010.

» The proportion of children whose mothers are HIV positive, and who were infected, decreased from 8% in 2008 to 3.5% in 2010.

South Africa showing leadership in reducing HIV and TB infections



FIGHTING BACK: South Africa is steadily winning the battle against Aids.

Picture: TSHEPO KEKANA

Ina Skosana

SOUTH Africa's rapid expansion of anti-retroviral programmes appears to have slowed down the Aids mortality rate in recent years.

The new ASSA2008 model estimates that the annual number of Aids deaths in the country has reduced from 257 000 in 2005 to 194 000 in 2010.

The government's spectacular success in its fight against the Aids pandemic was revealed last December at the Wolfson Stadium during the World Aids Day commemoration.

President Jacob Zuma, who gave the keynote address, attributed the successes achieved to the strategic plan launched in 2007.

"One of the landmark achievements was the 50% reduction in the transmission of HIV from

mothers to children between 2008 and 2010," he said. "I am pleased to report we made tremendous progress in all areas."

President Zuma said more than 13 million people were tested for HIV and more than 8 million screened for TB since the launch of a national HIV counselling and testing campaign that aimed to test 15 million people by June 2011.

"This is a remarkable response by South Africans. It demonstrates how advanced we have become over 30 years."

The President said from January 2010 to September 2011, public health centres providing anti-retroviral treatment have increased from 495 to 2 948.

The number of nurses providing treatment increased in the same period from 290 to nearly 10 542.

He said all public health facilities

in the country now offer services to pregnant women including HIV testing. "More than 300 000 people were placed on preventative treatment to stop the activation of TB compared to the 23 000 of people the previous year," President Zuma said.

Unveiling the National Strategic Plan (NSP) for the next five years, he said the aim was to reduce new HIV infections by half, provide about 80% of eligible people with anti-retroviral treatment and reduce new TB infections and deaths by 50%.

The President said the government intended reducing HIV, TB, HIV- and TB-preventable deaths and mother-to-child infections to zero as agreed at the UN high-level meeting in June this year.

The NSP has been met with great support, with NGOs and business applauding the renewed commitment in the face of a loom-

ing global funding crisis.

"It is a bold plan. South Africa is showing leadership at a time when many other parts of the world are retreating from their commitments on HIV," the Treatment Action Campaign said.

The South African Business Coalition on HIV and Aids took particular note of "the decisive leadership being taken by the South African government".

"The commitment by the government and business to make a significant difference to our HIV statistics can be seen in the numbers released by the health minister.

"Investment in education, testing and treatment has seen the decline in the number of new infections," said Brad Mears, the chief executive of the business coalition.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SA: A leading astronomy hub



GROUND BREAKING: The construction site of the Square Kilometre Array telescope in the Karoo. As a great astronomy hub, South Africa is ready to host the telescope.

Photo: GALLO IMAGES

THE Department of Science and Technology (DST) promotes science research across a wide spectrum of science and technology disciplines, from quantum physics to health sciences, and fields from nanotechnology to biotechnology.

During the past year government ramped up its bid to host the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

SKA is one of the great astronomy projects of the 21st century and it's a project on which South Africans collaborate with scientists from many other countries.

South Africa is competing against Australia and New Zealand to host this groundbreaking radio telescope that will cost €1.5bn (R15bn) to build. Winning the SKA bid will consolidate Africa's position as a world astronomy hub.

Specific attention has been given to nurturing the scientific strengths already built upon the back of South Africa's geographical position – our skies, oceans, earth that contains the

Cradle of Humankind – while developing new and emerging technologies necessary and critical for economic and social development.

The DST is working with the Department of Trade and Industry (the South African Renewable Energy Initiative) and the Department of Economic Development (IDC) to build solar, wind and wave industries – and most prominently in astronomy where the spin-off industries in IT have the potential to employ many science graduates.

During the last year African and global collaborations have expanded to 60 well-crafted international research and development partnerships. One example is BioFISA, a national and regional collaboration that includes 12 SADC member states, with a hub at the CSIR.

Despite significant achievements, the big challenge is on the human capital front. South Africa is not producing enough scientists and steps have been taken to boost university science.

The flagship programme, the SA Research Chairs Initiative, is being expanded – doubled from a R200m a year to a R400m a year programme – and strengthened, appealing to international scientists and South Africans in the diaspora.

It is critically important to invest in established researchers so as to assure South Africa's international competitiveness in research and innovation, while also helping to solve some of the country's problems in reducing the burden of disease such as HIV and TB.

Science and technology contributes to South Africa's impressive standing in recent world rankings of innovation and competitiveness. In the Global Innovation Index South Africa came second to Mauritius in the sub-Saharan region.

In the Global Competitiveness Index the country led the sub-Saharan region, ranked 50th out of 142 countries in the world.

South Africa also ranks second out of the five BRICS countries.

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

President Jacob Zuma



AGRICULTURE

Renewed hope for emerging farmers

THE programme for the newly created Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) was laid down when this current administration came into power in 2009 through the introduction of government's innovative Outcomes Approach.

The DAFF's contribution is in terms of a number of the 12 Outcomes that are detailed. However, most central to its mandate is Outcome 7, which calls for the promotion of "Vibrant, equitable, sustainable rural communities contributing towards food security for all."

Government will be introducing the 'Zero Hunger Programme', modelled on the very successful Brazilian initiative. Through Zero Hunger, the aim is to shift procurement of food by schools and other government institutions, in favour of smallholder producers, while supporting subsistence production and stimulating local food economies in a manner that seeks to enhance local household-level food security.

A ground-breaking new Aquaculture Programme has been established - farm fishing - which has enormous potential in South Africa.

DAFF has completed the establishment of an Aquaculture Demonstration Centre in partnership with the Free State Department of Agriculture and the Chinese government. The establishment of at least 10 fish farms has been facilitated so far.

The Extension Recovery Programme has been strengthened through service delivery extension officers who interface with the farmers by providing them with inter alia advice and planning, by investing in their skills and capacitating them with new ones, as well as equipping them with the hardware and software to enable them to access a wealth



SOWING SEEDS OF HOPE: President Zuma interacting with emerging farmers at a rural agriculture project.

Picture: GALLO IMAGES

of useful technical information.

Between April 2010 and December 2011, 10 317 new smallholders were established. 15 720 smallholder farmers were supported in terms of finance, training and production inputs within the same period.

About 700 forestry growers

have been provided with various support including technical assistance and advice, obtaining planting licences, business development and partnered with MONDI and the Industrial Development Corporation for financial support in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, Eastern Cape and

Northern Cape.

There were a number of employment opportunities created across the three sectors with more than 2 517 jobs created through the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Program (CASP) - an infrastructure support grant for smallholder farmers - between

July and September 2011, while Ilima/Letsema, an input grant that provides seeds and fertilisers to farmers, created 2 504 jobs during the same period. The Land Care programme created 1 339 jobs between July and December 2011. Forestry operations managed to create 1 051 jobs between

July and December 2011. At least 476 jobs were created through Working for Fisheries programme between July and September 2011, while MAFISA, a micro-finance scheme that provides smallholder farmers with access to funding at a cheaper rate, managed to create 21 071 jobs by September 2011.

quick facts

- » More than 540 117 hectares were acquired for land-reform purposes
- » 769 farms are being recapitalised by being provided with agricultural infrastructure, with more than 230 farmers receiving mentorship and training
- » More than 7 000 young people from wide-ranging rural communities are participating in the National Rural Youth Service Corp in Dytsselsdorp
- » The programme includes training in disaster management, construction and information management

Economic Sectors and Employment Cluster



» Chair:
Mr Gugile Ernest Nkwinti
Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform

» Deputy Chair:
Ms Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor
Minister of Science and Technology

Participating Departments
» Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

- » Communications
- » Economic Development
- » Finance
- » Higher Education and Training
- » Labour
- » Mineral Resources

- » Public Enterprises
- » Rural Development and Land Reform
- » Science and Technology Tourism
- » Trade and Industry

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Land reform programme accelerated

Luzuko Pongoma

THE government says one of the biggest success stories has been the revitalisation of small rural towns.

Two pilot projects are under way at Prince Albert hamlet, Witzenberg municipality in the Western Cape, and in Dytsselsdorp, in the Greater Oudtshoorn municipality in the Eastern Cape. These are two examples of what can be achieved through working together as government and the community.

According to the government, more than 540 117 ha were acquired for land-reform purposes.

In an effort to resuscitate land-reform projects, the government last year introduced a Recapitalisation and Development Programme. To date, 769 farms are being recapitalised and provided with agricultural infrastructure. At least 234 farmers have received mentorship and training.

The government also launched the National Rural Youth Service Corps in Dytsselsdorp, where more than 7 000 young people from rural communities were participating in the programme, which includes training in disaster management, construction and information management.

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COMING HOME: Restitution claimant Ebrahim Parker and Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform Solomon Lechesa Tsenoli share a joke at Trafalgar High School on the first day of the public consultation process for the redevelopment of District Six.

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

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HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Great strides in housing the poor

Michael Appel

THE government has made massive strides in the human settlements arena since 1994, with more than 2.5 million housing units provided to the poorest of the poor.

Last year President Jacob Zuma committed the government to a number of milestones.

In that year, 2 176 human settlement projects were approved and more than 340 000 houses and just under 155 000 serviced sites were completed. More than 32 000 serviced sites were completed as part of the Informal Settlements Upgrading Programme and 5 000 rental housing units were completed.

The programme last year

provided services in 52 383 sites, almost doubling the target the government set itself. From 2009 to June 2011, more than 81 000 incremental housing loans were disbursed to the value of more than R385m by the Rural Housing Loan Fund. About 30 000 of these loans were disbursed in the rural nodes to the value of R130m.

The government has broadened universal access to basic services across the country and connected close to 65 000 households to electricity in 2011. Between April and December 2011, some 450 000 people were given basic water supply and by the end of the 2012 financial year, the government hopes to increase this figure to about 600 000.

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IMPROVEMENT: Government RDP houses that were built in Tembisa.

Picture: HERBERT MATIMBA



WAY BACK THEN: Soweto 1991, above. New housing development have brought about significant changes.

quickfacts

» THE Informal Settlements Upgrading Programme has provided services in 52 383 sites against a target of 27 054

» From 2009 to June 2011, more than 81 000 incremental housing loans were disbursed to the value

of about R385m by the Rural Housing Loan Fund. Of these, 30 000 were disbursed in the rural nodes to the value of R130m

» 2176 human settlement projects were approved

» 341 316 houses were completed and 154 461 ser-

viced sites were delivered

» 32 000 serviced sites were built in the Informal Settlements Upgrading Programme

» More than 5 000 rental units were completed

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Trade and industry boosted in 2011

Industrial Development

IN LINE with the focus on job creation in the 2011 State of the Nation Address, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has continued to build on its industrial development efforts, at the core of which is the Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP2).

The IPAP2 has identified key constraints to sustained industrial development and job creation in the manufacturing sectors.

Sectoral highlights

These sectoral highlights provide invaluable lessons for government participation in industrial development generally and industrial policy in particular.

The stabilisation of the clothing, textiles, leather and footwear industries, the turning around of the automotive industry and the establishment of the business process services industry represent a clear demonstration of what targeted industrial support can achieve. These examples can and need to be emulated in other industries as well.

In the case of the car industry, the Automotive Incentive Scheme, with a budget of R2.69bn over the MTEF period, has been instrumental in securing about R15bn investment commitments from assemblers and component suppliers. This includes R9bn in investment commitments by Ford (Ranger); General Motors (production of Spark in SA); Volkswagen (investment in new press shop for Polo, Daimler Chrysler and New C Class) and recently \$100m (R760.6m) in truck and car assembly plant by FAW.

About 7 155 new jobs have been projected over a three-year period.

The rollout of the Clothing and Textile Competitiveness Pro-

gramme (CTCP) and the Production Incentive (PI) aimed at stabilising the clothing and textile sector has been met with success.

Under the CTCP R112m was approved for 106 companies, while 208 applications totalling R624m were approved under the PI. This is in support of at least 48 384

being observed in the footwear and leather sector.

The clothing and textiles sector incentive programmes have played a major role in turning around and stabilising the steep decline of the sector and the framework provides very important lessons that can be duplicated

new scheme are expected to create about 11 000 jobs over a three-year period.

Success has also been registered with the launch of Amazon.com's first African customer service centre in Cape Town in August to service global English- and German-speaking

BRIC countries increased by a significant average annual growth rate of 30% this year. China was once again the main driving force behind the persistent increase in exports, with India playing a strong supporting role.

In a resource-rich region such as Africa, South Africa has a comparative advantage in manufactured products. This is reiterated by the exports trends, where machinery comprises the largest share of South Africa's export basket to this region.

Mineral fuels, as well as iron and steel also feature prominently, but are balanced out by articles of iron and steel, vehicles, electrical and electronic equipment, plastics, paper and pulp.

To strengthen this trajectory and enhance economic integration in Africa, the Tripartite Initiative made up of the Southern African Development Community, the East African Community and the Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa was launched in South Africa last year.

Broadening participation

To fast-track timely payment for SMMEs a call centre was established through Small Enterprise Development Agency to facilitate payment within 30 days for SMMEs contracting with government.

As at 15 December 2011 the hotline call centre had answered more than 25 000 calls and facilitated payments of more than R270m to small enterprises.

Work on the review of existing SMME programmes, policies and institutions initiated as a result of the Presidential directive has been completed and the final report will be presented to the economic sectors and employment cluster soon.

The PPPFA regulations and

B-BBEE policy framework were reviewed to align discretionary points with B-BBEE codes and local procurement so that only suppliers that meet the minimum threshold for local content will be considered for preference points, as informed by their B-BBEE status.

The government in its endeavour to promote the development and growth of cooperatives undertook to review the Cooperative Act No 14 of 2005 to enhance capacity and streamline the delivery mechanisms for co-operatives, reduce the regulatory burden on cooperatives and to enhance compliance, coordination, administration and sustainability of cooperatives.

To increase and grow the pool of cooperatives, 220 small-scale cooperatives were established, 175 trained and 115 provided with market access covering both local and international markets during 2011/12 financial year.

A Regional Industrial Development Plan will be completed and three feasibility studies for three new Special Economic Zones will be commissioned.

Regulation

As part of creating a regulatory environment that supports the country's industrial development objectives, the regulations for the Consumer Amendment Bill and the Consumer Protection Act have been finalised to give effect to the two pieces of legislation.

The Consumer Commission and the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission have been established and are up and running.

The Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill for the Protection of Indigenous Knowledge was approved by Cabinet and introduced to Parliament.



MOTERING ALONG: The automotive industry has secured about R15bn in investments.

Picture: LEON SADIKI

direct and indirect jobs.

An agreement with the biggest retail group, Foschini, to procure garments from SMMEs has been reached.

Within the footwear and leather sector, a South African handmade shoe brand, Tsonga, is being exported to Australia and France. Upward employment trends are

in other sectors with respect to investment in capital equipment, new systems and product development and labour retention.

Significant progress has been made in the business processing sector with the consolidation of the new incentive framework and international marketing.

Approved projects under the

clients.

The Monyetla Skills Programme has also been instrumental in placing more than 70% of its trainees in places of employment within the sector.

Trade and Africa development

South Africa's exports to the

Social Protection and Community Development Cluster



» Chair:
Ms Bathabile Olive Dlamini
Minister of Social Development

» Deputy Chair:
Mr Thembelani Thulas Nxesi
Minister of Public Works

Participating Departments
» Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs

» Environmental and Water Affairs

» Human Settlements

» Labour

» Public Works

» Rural Development and Land Reform

» Social Development

» Transport

» Women, Youth, Children and People with Disabilities

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

President Jacob Zuma



CRIME AND CORRUPTION

Steady gains in the reduction of crime

GOVERNMENT is encouraged by the progress we have attained in the fight against crime in 2011-12 financial year.

Such progress and successes were not sporadic acts of luck but achieved because SAPS planned better, coordinated and

wanted for a various categories of crimes, most of which encompassed priority crimes such as murder, aggravated robberies, ATM bombings and sexually related offences.

The Limpopo team has arrested hundreds of suspects wanted for a



CRIME DOWN: Acting National Police Commissioner Lt-Gen Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi
Picture: GALLO IMAGES

implemented better, learnt and improved because their philosophy is premised along a notion that security planning is an ongoing process.

In September the festive season safety campaign was launched in Thokoza, Gauteng. To coincide with the national launch, SAPS also officially launched the Tracking Team, a pilot unit that has been operating in Gauteng since May 2011, tracking the country's most wanted criminals.

The tracking teams in just four provinces have arrested more than 750 wanted suspects in the last month. These suspects were

range of serious crimes.

Also thousands of suspects were arrested for offences that included theft of motor vehicles, illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, drug-related crime, illegal liquor outlets closed (21094), crimes against women and children including rape, sexual offences, sexual assault and child abuse (7702) and driving under influence of liquor or drugs (14166), to mention but a few.

The main success of this campaign was through the active participation of citizenry, who partnered with the police in fighting this scourge.



FULL FORCE: Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa and Gauteng police commissioner Gen Mzwandile Petros join Pretoria police on a police raid in Marabastad during the festive season safety campaign.
Picture: TSHEPO KEKANA

Since the end of last year, police across the country working in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies and government departments have seized billions of rands worth of counterfeit goods.

Government has taken firm steps to build anti-corruption capacity in the Public Service through the creation of anti-corruption instruments such as the:

- Public Service Anti-Corruption Unit.
- Multi-Agency Working Group.
- National Anti-Corruption Hotline (NACH).

Since the inception of the NACH, a total of 1 499 officials were charged with misconduct for corrupt activities. The successful investigation of some of these cases resulted in the recovery of R110 million from perpetrators.

The Anti-Corruption Task Team is investigating 45 corruption-related priority cases against 151 accused persons and assets in excess of R600 billion worth of assets obtained through illicit means have been forfeited to the State over the past two years.

More than 20 proclamations have been issued by the President, authorising the Special Investigating Unit to conduct investigations. Most of these focus on procurement-related irregularities, which is a priority for government.

In the culture of open and transparent governance, as well as in acknowledging the public interest in these matters, the President established the Commission of Inquiry into the Strategic Defence Procurement Packages, known commonly as the "Arms Deal" to bring about closure to this matter. In the spirit, President Zuma also released the Donen Report into the Iraq Oil for Food Programme.

quick facts

ACHIEVEMENTS attained in 2011 included, among other things:

» Serious crimes dropped by 5.75% in 2011/12 compared to the same period in 2010/11. There were 149 659 arrests

» Contact crimes decreased by 9.65% in 2011/12 compared to the same period in 2010/11. There were 54 919 arrests

» The detection rate for contact crime increased from 53.46% to 56.99% and for trio crimes (vehicle hijacking, house robbery and business robbery) from 14.77% to 16.2% in 2010/11

Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster



» Chair:
Mr Jeffrey Thamsanqa Radebe
Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development

» Deputy Chair:
Nkosinathi Emmanuel "Nathi" Mthethwa
Minister of Police

Participating Departments

» Correctional Services

» Defence and Military Veterans

» Home Affairs

» Justice and Constitutional

» Development

» Police

» State Security

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The New Growth Path to intensify economic progress



GOOD JOB: Minister of Economic Development Ebrahim Patel and Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe are among the champions of the New Growth Path.
Picture: GALLO IMAGES

ABOUT a year ago, Cabinet adopted the New Growth Path, an employment strategy to create five million new jobs by 2020. President Jacob Zuma placed job creation at the centre of his State of the Nation Address in February 2011, and committed government to focus on job creation.

In this past year, 365 000 new jobs were created in South Africa. This increase in jobs follows a period when the economy shed jobs during the economic crisis from 2009.

The Economic Development Department (EDD), has focused on providing support for the employment strategy and guiding the agencies that we supervise to help shape a more jobs-friendly, equitable, green and dynamic economy.

Policy and co-ordination work takes place in close collaboration with other departments, and cannot be separated from the overall efforts of government to transform the economy to benefit most of our people.

The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), which EDD oversees, has doubled its envelope for lending to businesses over the next five years to over R100bn. It has allocated funds specifically to the jobs drivers in the New Growth Path, including agricultural processing, the green economy and the IPAP sectors. In 2011 alone, it approved R12,6bn of new investment, unlocking a total of R26bn of local and foreign investment in the economy. The results have been shown in significant new job creation, in manufacturing, mining and the green economy.

The EDD have initiated the consolidation of government finance for small and micro enterprise under the IDC. A new agency will come into existence on April 1 this year and should permit substantial up-scaling of finance to small businesses as well as greater efficiency.

The Competition Commission has adopted a strategic approach to ensuring competitive market prices, focusing on intermediate inputs and wage goods that can affect costs and efficiency across the economy. It has successfully taken steps to reduce the cost of fertilisers, construction services, bread and poultry.

Interventions by EDD in co-operation with the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Agriculture led to the imposition of conditions by the Competition Tribunal on the Walmart/Massmart merger that will ensure some support for local producers.

EDD has worked closely with the Presidential Infrastructure Co-ordinating Commission, which seeks to sustain public investment at over 9% of the GDP while ensuring more effective and efficient expenditure in ways that ensure broad-based and increasingly inclusive economic growth. An Infrastructure Plan has been developed that will unblock obstacles to mineral development, economic activity and social inclusion.

The EDD is also part of a partnership that has installed close to 250 000 solar water heaters, with a target of a million by 2014. They will increasingly be produced

locally. Some of them are specifically designed for low-income households, giving some families warm water for the first time. Government has also progressed the work to produce bio-fuels from sugar-beet, sorghum and sugar, to blend petrol with renewable energy sources.

Social dialogue on the New Growth Path has led to the conclusion of a number of important accords. These include:

• **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**, to expand the supply of artisans and engineers, increase spending on training and building skills partnerships on the shop-floor

• **BASIC EDUCATION**, to help repair dysfunctional schools, using the support of businesses, trade unions and community organisations

• **LOCAL PROCUREMENT** by both the public and private sector, which was followed by the state publishing a list of products that public entities will only buy from local producers, and

• **THE GREEN ECONOMY**, which identifies opportunities to create new jobs whilst supporting responsible environmental practices.

This process has begun to establish a new collaborative relationship between the state and key economic stakeholders as well as starting to establish a longer-term, developmental perspective amongst all decision makers in the economy.

In short, the EDD is laying the basis for the jobs growth required to meet the targets set in the New Growth Path.

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

President Jacob Zuma



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SA advances the African Agenda

Stature grows ahead internationally and in region in promoting peace, development

Mel Frykberg

SOUTH Africa forged ahead last year in the political arena both regionally and internationally, assuming leadership roles, promoting peace and development in Africa, strengthening bilateral relations with African partners, while contributing significantly to international forums.

“Our work in ensuring that we strengthen political and economic integration of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is supported by our ongoing efforts towards the implementation and consolidation of the SADC Free Trade Area,” said Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.

“We have continued to work with like-minded countries to consolidate the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the Eastern African Community, SADC, the Free Trade Area and also hosted the launch of the trilateral grouping,” Nkoana-Mashabane told The New Age.

“Our country was elected SADC’s Deputy Chair of the Organ during the August 2010 Summit and assumed the chair in August 2011,” added the minister.

South Africa promoted inter and intra-regional trade, infrastructure development, political cohesion and governance capacity through cooperating with the SADC. It had been fully involved in facilitation and mediation efforts in Zimbabwe and Madagascar through the SADC.

In order to ensure equitable distribution of market shares, South Africa had taken part in the celebrations of the centenary of the Southern African Customs Union, and subsequently assumed the chair of the union.

Minister of Home Affairs Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma made international headlines recently when she narrowly missed becoming the first woman to be elected to the chair of the African Union’s (AU) Commission – the second most influential position within the AU.

South Africa was a key player in helping South Sudan gain independence when it ceded from Sudan as part of the AU’s Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development process in Sudan.

The country assumed a two-year membership of the AU’s Peace and Security Council and a two-year seat on the UN Security Council, a pivotal point from which to get involved in global affairs and influence key decisions on issues of strategic importance to South Africa and the African continent.

Last year South Africa became a member of the Brazil, Russia, India, China – and since April 2011 South Africa – bloc (BRICS) which comprises emerging economies working together to streamline their mutual interests.

The stock exchanges of the BRICS mechanism met last October in Johannesburg and announced an initiative to cross-list benchmark equity index derivatives on each other’s boards in an effort to stimulate opportunities for investors within their markets.

Participation in the New Africa-Asia Strategic Partnership (Naasp) Co-Chairs Meeting, which convened in South Africa, was another government accomplishment – this is where a roadmap was agreed upon for hosting the Naasp Summit.

Meanwhile, in the international arena South Africa’s hosting of



STRONG LEADERSHIP: Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane and Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, seen here during a meet and greet session, are advancing South Africa’s case internationally.

the COP 17, UN Climate Change Summit in Durban in December gave the country a chance to showcase its potential to the international community while taking constructive steps to combat global warming and climate change.

“South Africa’s presidency was praised domestically and globally for facilitating the groundbreaking and historical Durban

Outcome into existence,” Minister Nkoana-Mashabane said. The Durban Outcome is hailed as having restored trust in and helped to strengthen the multilateral climate change system.

Among key outcomes, parties agreed to sign on to the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol as well as to establish the Green Climate Fund.

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quick facts

BUILDING a better Africa

» SA ensured that Durban delivered a fair and balanced COP17 outcome that would help secure the future of our planet

» SA will continue to hold the COP17/CMP7 presidency for the year ending in November, when the new COP18/CMP8 president will take over

» The African agenda remained the key policy focus in 2011, with SA currently serving a two-year term on the African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council

» In August, South Africa assumed the chair of the Southern African Development Community Organ on Politics, Defence and Security

» The world witnessed the birth of a brand new state, South Sudan, in which South Africa played a part. The country is currently involved in various peacekeeping operations

» A key challenge during 2011 was the situation around Libya. South Africa helped secure a resolution of the situation in that country, despite the unfortunate developments around the misuse of the United Nations’ (UN) Resolution of 1973, which was meant to protect civilians

» South Africa participated in all deliberations in the various organs of the UN and specifically the Security Council as a nonpermanent member for 2011 and 2012

International Cooperation, Trade and Security Cluster



» Chair:
Ms Lindiwe Nonceba Sisulu
Minister of Defence and Military Veterans

» Deputy Chair:
Ms Maite M Nkoana-Mashabane
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

Participating Departments

» Defence and Military Veterans

» International Relations and Cooperation

» Finance

» Trade and Industry

» Tourism

» Rural Development and Land Reform

» Water and Environmental Affairs

Sport and Recreation works to produce champions

SPORT and Recreation South Africa (SRSA), the national government department responsible for sport, has made big plans to produce winners.

Aligned with its vision of creating an active and winning nation, the department’s primary focuses are providing opportunities for all South Africans to participate in sport; managing the regulatory framework thereof; and providing funding for different codes of sport.

South Africa has successfully

try. An audit for school’s sporting facilities has already been carried out with a view to providing support for pupils to develop their talents to the highest level.

On the sporting front, the netball, rugby and cricket teams participated in world cup tournaments. They flew the rainbow flag with distinction even if they did not capture the ultimate honours.

SRSA hosted the National Sport and Recreation Indaba from 21 to 22 November 2011 to maximise the potential benefits



CHAMPION: Swimmer Chad le Clos.

hosted many world cups for different sporting codes including rugby, cricket and football.

Apart from the new stadia built for the successful 2010 FIFA World Cup, the government is also looking to build appropriate sports facilities all over the coun-

try of sport and recreation and to improve sports development in the country in a seamless and well-coordinated system.

The newly launched Integrated School Sport Framework will give children early exposure to diverse healthy physical activity.



WINNERS: South Africa celebrates winning the Plate final against Tonga in the Wellington Sevens in New Zealand.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES