

NATAL ADMINISTRATOR OPENS KLA

By: Vusi Sosibo

About 1 500 people of diversity converged at the new building of KwaZulu Legislative Assembly to see the official opening of the second session of the fourth KwaZulu Legislative Assembly. As it was expected the Central Government failed to send its Cabinet member to open this session officially instead it sent the Administrator of Natal Mr J.C.G. Botha.

Delivering his speech of address Mr Botha emphasized the possibility of co-operation between the KwaZulu and the Pretoria Governments and he also appealed to the people of South Africa to bury up the conflicts which have caused racial hatred and appealed for racial reconciliation.

Mr Botha then applauded the KwaZulu Authorities for the role they played during the devastating droughts and floods in this area. He also praised the KwaZulu Authorities for the co-operation and relationship with the Natal region.

FLOODS AND DROUGHT

Delivering his vote of thanks the Honourable Chief Minister Dr M.G. Buthelezi applauded Mr Botha for the official opening of the KwaZulu Legislative

Assembly. He then said that when it comes to the subsistence economics of a so-called homeland like KwaZulu Black people are faced with an array of intangible problems that the prospects of doing something meaningful for the peasant victims of drought and floods are slim indeed. Comparing the White to a peasant he said that a White farmer is far better off than an African peasant since if he loses his cattle, crops or is overwhelmed by his debt, he is only losing money but not the opportunity of rehabilitating but when a peasant loses everything he/she has no other option but to go to other peasants who are in the same plight.

Turning to the floods and drought which had dominated the KwaZulu region he said that this has done more than devast individual lives. He said that vast sums of money which would have been used for developmental purposes will now be used to repair the damage caused by these floods and drought. He then praised the Central Government for the role it played in assisting the flood and drought victims. He then emphasized that the rural poverty is not simply a rural problem but a

problem of a State and should become the concern of every South African.

NKOMATI ACCORD

Referring to the Nkomati Accord he said that he believes that charity should have started at home as the saying goes. He then warned the Whites not to be euphoric about it and he said that it would be easier for these two countries to remain in an agreement if a just society was to be established within the borders of this country.

1984 BUDGET

About the announcement of the Minister of Finance Mr Owen Horwood concerning this year's budget he said that the Minister did something of great importance in increasing the old age pensions of all population groups, although this praiseworthy act is soured by the fact that the gross disparities between what is paid to Black and White will be retained. He appealed to the Natal's Administrator to convey a message of gratitude to his Government for giving all the money requested in current budget proposals.

He then concluded that the fundamental political changes in South Africa will eventually ease the tense atmosphere.



Chief Buthelezi and his Cabinet Ministers during the official opening of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly.