Appointment of New District Manager: Ilembe

Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi

The people and staff of Ilembe District welcomed Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi as the newly appointed District Manager for Ilembe.

KZN MEC for Education, Mr ES Mchunu, together with Nkosinathi SP Sishi, [PhD] HOD: Education congratulated Ms Vilakazi on her new appointment and welcomed her to the Senior Management Member [SMM] Service in Women’s Month.

On her first day at work, Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi was introduced to the Management Committee [MANCO] of Ilembe District by the Senior General Manager, Ms Judy Dlamini in the Boardroom at Malgate Building in Durban and later introduced to the staff. Her appointment was with effect from 1 August 2012.

“I feel excited about this appointment. Ilembe has been without a Manager for a very long time and this has stifled service delivery in the District. I wish to thank all District MANCO Members for holding the forth in the absence of the Manager at the helm of the District.

I wish her well and hope that she is going to turn things around in respect of Learner Achievement Outcomes and improve relations with all stakeholders in education”, said the Senior General Manager: Infrastructure Development Support, Ms Judy Dlamini.

Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi was born on 02 November 1969 to humble parents in the deep rural North of KwaZulu-Natal. She went the extra mile against all odds to educate herself. Her vision was quality education is the key to success. Hence she decided to pursue a career in education to groom young people to become professionals and meaningful citizens in the country.

A member of the South African Council of Educators (SACE) a professional body for educators formerly Ms Vilakazi held the post of Chief Education Specialist in the Office of the District Manager in Umzinyathi.

“My appointment as a District Manager of Ilembe District was received with great appreciation and celebration by the Vilakazi, Binda and Mphephethe clan throughout the country. Above all, it was welcomed and appreciated by the progressive women, leadership structures and organized labour as the step towards the right direction”, said Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi.

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I am thankful to the leadership of our KZN Department of Education who has the confidence in me by giving me this opportunity and great responsibility to lead the ILembe District in the advancement of the educational priorities of this country.

This has been a true reflection that our Provincial Department of Education is being guided and directed by the dynamic forward-looking leadership in partnership with all relevant stakeholders with the sole interest of providing access to education. It is therefore not a coincidence but a point of honour for the collective leadership of this Department that my appointment occurred at the time when our great woman leader, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma was elected as the Chairperson of our African Union Commission.

Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi remarked. ‘I give my assurance to our collective leadership that there is no room for disappointment. I am equal to the task entrusted to me. I am under no illusion of a honeymoon period at all. I have also gone past the learning curve period. I have started hitting the road running.

I have already crisscrossed ILembe District and interacted with many progressive local leaders. I therefore have no doubt that it is in the best interest of the community of ILembe that the District is in the process of urgently being relocated to KwaDukaza [Stanger]. In an attempt to lead by an example, I will personally move my office immediately to KwaDukaza [Stanger]. Our officials at the ILembe District have no reason to be confused, since our mandate is clear and straightforward. It is encapsulated in our Strategic Plan and the Programme of Action. Achievements which have been made by the District in this regard are highly appreciated. It is still through our collective effort that we will be able to achieve more.’

Leadership

Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi remarked her career in education started as an educator, Head of Department and Deputy Principal at school level. At Department level her career began with her appointment of a First Education Specialist-Psychological Guidance and Special Education Services, Deputy Chief Education Specialist at Head Office under Discipline, Safety and Security in schools sub-directorate, Education Management and Governance Development responsible for Institutional Governance Development, Financial Management Training, Learner Affairs, Education Conditional Grant, Post Provisioning Model and Promotions, School Affairs, Education Management Development and Gender Equality, Chief Education Specialist-Office of the District Director at Umzinyathi District. She has managed the following:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/EDUCATION INSIGHT

ACADEMIC

Ms Thembinkosi Charlotte Vilakazi completed her Grade 12 as a full time candidate in 1987 at Sukuma Comprehensive High School. Thereafter enrolled for the Bachelor of Arts degree at UNISA, with specialization in IsiZulu and Education in 1997.

Professional

- Secondary Teachers Diploma at Indumiso College of Education in 1990
- Bachelor of Education Honours at University of South Africa in 2011

My Community Involvement

- Poverty Alleviation Programmes
- Crime Prevention Programme
- Women Empowerment Programmes
- HIV/Aids Programmes
- Women and Child Abuse Programmes

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