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:MBER 31 1995

THE PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE

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JANI LOOKS INTO
SVENGALI'S EYES

FORMER Sunday Times
columnist Jani Allan's predilec-
tion for powerful men seems to be
as strong as ever.

Out in South Africa from Lon-
don recently for her mother's
funeral, she was seen having a
cosy dinner a deux at the plush
new Hyatt Hotel in Johannesburg
with Mario Ambrosini, top advisor
to the Minister of Home Affairs,
Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.
Ambrosini, an Italian/American
lawyer called the Svengali of the
IFP by some opposition politi-
cians, is said to earn R336 000 a
year - more than the -chief
Justice.

NEVER TOO
RICH ... Jani
Allan stands to
inherit millions

Jani also spent time at Ulundi
at the invitation of the IFP leader
who, she told friends, had been
extremely supportive during
her bereavement. She was even
seen on a plane from Durban to
Johannesburg closely studying
IFP documents though this
could be all in a day's work.

In London she works for a news
agency, owned by former SABC
newsman Cliff Saunders, which
specialises in stories about minor-
ity political parties all over the
world.

Jani, during her pre-Eugene
Terre Blanche days, always told

- colleagues that her maxim, like

that of the late Aristotle Onassis,
was 'you can never be too tanned,
too rich or too thin'. She's doing
well on two scores, say old
acquaintances who saw her on her
trip home. She may be pale, but
she's as slim as a rope, and stands,
they say, to inherit millions from
her mother's estate.

IT'S A MOVEABLE
FEAST IN PLETT

® PLETT truly is a town of
contrasts. Its mayor is an unem-
ployed homeless person who
strides through the municipality
wearing his chain of office over a

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Thursday September 21 1995 SOWETAN

Slow education
pace in Kwa.

Sowetan will regularly publish a series of articles on the state of education in the

By Claire Keeton
Education Reporter

HE.CLOCK ON TOP of the Dur-

ban City Hall had stopped

when I was in KwaZulu-Natal
P & last week to investigate the
state of education in the province.

The immobile hands seemed a symbol of how slowly the system of education is changing in KwaZulu-Natal - so slowly it is virtually imperceptible - the province with the country's largest education department.

The size of the department, with around 2,5 million pupils, is no doubt one of the reasons for the difficult unification of the fragmented education system, along with the historical political conflicts in the region.

Despite these problems, however, the education system in KwaZulu-Natal is finally starting to show signs of progress with the recent establishment of an advisory council to MEC for education Dr Vincent Zulu, inter-

on MEC Dr Vincent Zulu mis-

Ms Nithi Muth
n:
understood that the

at KwaZulu-Natal

FOGUS O
EDUCATIO

Zulu said, however, the process

will go ahead. with
- despite " differences

ing recommend only public and private : Government as. the

* Committee member M'., jâ\200\230?h" Pam- Â°
which Zulu supports. -

ad

This idea of technical education .
Awasslmssedbytheachngbeadof' 32
department; Dr -Sydney" Tshabalala: - i
â\200\234Our biggest challenge: {s to provide . !
the kind of educblmnâ\200\231Â«!liatoï¬\202'm skills<>7
training for: students

* the provincial govÃ©rnmÃ©st. . -

I policy.
the School

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Review Committee report onâ\200\231 school-

Aaro

. The Bill does not fall in line with pallis an

cation forum launched last AweÃ©kend.
three types of schools. In contrast, the . "

schools.

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on schooling.
For example, it makes provision for

Three types of schools .

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The education policy Bill came
under fire from 18 democratic organi-

The passage of these Bills through
sations belonging to a provincial edu-

the provincial legislature was one of

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three provincial education Bills for
general, college and technical educa-
tion.
the topics discussed at Friday's KIC-

KWAZULU-NATAL has drawn up
CET meeting. The Bills were tabled to
the provincial cabinet on S

viewing for top departmental posts,
and the tabling of three" education
Bills.

The new KwaZulu-Natal Depart- .
ment of Education and Culture is
responsible for schooling and instruc-
tion at nearly 5 000 schools, of which
:2 284 are primary schools, as well as'

23 technical collcges and 16 collcges -
of education. -

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LKWAZULU NATAL

replaced this year by Technical Task
Teams after submitting final reports toâ\200\231
the IPSPMC, while others have contini:
ued to function as channels for publ

participation.
In addxuon. Zulu esmbhshed'

But the everyday NW e |

tion in the province is not.yet done by -*
the new department; instead, in the " i
interim, the five former departments
operating in the province are providing
education on an agency basis.

The former KwaZulu Department
of Education and Culture still plays a -

major role since its pupils â\200\224 at around
72 percent of all the pupils â\200\224 make. up
the bulk in the province.

Although the integration of the ex-

departments has been dragging this year, it got off to an early start in 1992 with the establishment of the Committee of the Heads of Education Departments in KwaZulu-Natal.

* They appointed three working groups to deal with the unification, primary schooling and networking among the departments.

KwaZulu-Natal. At the moment poor rural communities have to bear most of

the cost of building schools, receiving

only R7 000 for a classroom costing them around R30 000, They are generally poorly funded and understaffed.

Zulu told Soweefan they have set

aside money for work to continue with

population centres

tributed to the paralytic education system.

the ex-DET and KwaZulu programmes -

of school-building: Most schools are overcrowded and we have submitted a proposal to the central Government on

our budget - A

released reports in December 1993 and May 1994, and made a contribution to national policy discussion.

: Political jockeying appears to have interfered with the initial progress made by technocrats, however, leading to the appointment of the Interim Provincial Strategic Planning and

Management Committee (IPSPMC) by -

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu in 1994 to keep unification on track.

* The committee attempted from the outset to involve education stakeholders in the process by establishing 19 Project Task Groups.

Most of the committees were

Zulu said most schools do not have electricity or water: We are dealing with the RDP to look for funds for renovating and repairing schools, building toilets and the possibility of installing electricity.

Zulu added the provmce will boost

the number of teachers by 3 064 posts
this financial year. The distribution of
teachers was a problem, with too many
teachers in urban settlements.

â\200\234*â\200\234Soon the number of teachers. will

districts for better manigefient.

KwaZulu-Natal is the first province

to'establish a provincial chamber of the
C

education through regul_ vmeev.mgsâ\200\230--,, :

twice a month.

â\200\234The first obstacle : ;

Natal has been the fighting-and misun-
derstanding among ourselves,â\200\235 Zulu
said. But there is. hgh(ahbepnd of the.'

reach saturation point.. Technical col-

leges need to be a major focus and we:

want to increase their bers, easing
the pressure on education colleges.â\200\235.