



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE MODERNISATION  
PROGRAMME**

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**Presented to the National Assembly  
by**

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## Ministerial Statement on Hospital Modernisation programme

### Introduction

**Mr. Speaker,** thank you for granting me this opportunity to deliver a Ministerial Statement to the House on the important issue of the modernization of Health Services in the country.

**Mr. Speaker,** I wish to inform the House that my ministry has been implementing a hospital modernization programme since 2011 in order to provide modern and specialized services to the Zambian people. This programme has focused on three main areas namely infrastructure, human resource development, and equipment, within the context of quality of service.

**Mr. Speaker,** the background to this programme is that Government has been spending substantial amounts of money to send patients for treatment abroad. For example in 2014 government spent USD 915,146.14 to send patients for treatment in South Africa and in 2015, 21 patients were sent to South Africa for treatment at a cost of USD 290,438.61. In 2014, the government spent about USD1, 222,163.00 for patients to go for treatment to India and in 2015, 43 patients were sent to India at a cost of USD 707,937.00

**Mr. Speaker,** since embarking on this important undertaking, the following milestones have been achieved;

#### (i) University Teaching Hospital

**Mr. Speaker,** the Government has undertaken infrastructure development at the UTH some of which is still ongoing;

- (i) Construction of the Adult Medical Emergency Unit at UTH  
This Unit is ear marked to handle all emergency cases and will have facilities such as Computerised Tomography

scan (CT), Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Renal dialysis unit in addition to the already existing facilities at UTH.

- (ii) The road network in the hospital has been resurfaced
- (iii) A modern 400 vehicle capacity car park is still under construction.
- (iv) Central ventilation for the theatre, X-ray and ICU departments are being worked on. The contractor is on site.
- (v) Replacement of lifts.
- (vi) A new CT scan has been installed and is fully functional

**Mr. Speaker** the Ministry has installed a modern Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at the UTH and this will be able to handle cardiology interventional procedures. Currently patients with these types of cases are being sent abroad for treatment. Once operational, the Zambian people who need cardiac interventional procedures will be dealt with locally so as to save government resources. In addition advanced Ophthalmology equipment has been installed to handle all problems related to eyes.

### **(ii) Cancer Diseases Hospital**

Mr. Speaker, the cancer diseases hospital has been expanded with the construction of 252 bed capacity wards ~~has been~~ completed, equipment ~~is~~ being installed and staff ~~requirements~~ already recruited. Government has also installed modern equipment such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), CT Scan, 2<sup>nd</sup> brachytherapy unit and cobalt 60 at the facility for enhanced service delivery for cancer patients.

### **(iii) Livingstone Central Hospital**

**Mr. Speaker**, at Livingstone Central Hospital, Government has rehabilitated old infrastructure and constructed new ones which

has enhanced service delivery. The major developments at the hospital are as follows:

- (i) The Ministry has procured and installed Computerised Tomography (CT) Scan Machine;
- (ii) A new eye department with state of the art equipment has been installed and is functional;
- (iii) A new seven (7) bed dialysis unit has been setup and fully functional offering the much needed renal services;
- (iv) A New surgical outpatient department and fully equipped ICU are operational;
- (v) New orthotics and prosthetics equipment for the production of artificial limbs and braces has been installed and is functional;
- (vi) New advanced physiotherapy equipment has been procured and has been delivered to the hospital. The installation of this new equipment will be done in the next few weeks.

**Mr. Speaker** as a result of these additional new developments in areas of service provision, Livingstone General Hospital has been elevated to a Central Level Hospital. Starting this year, Livingstone Central Hospital will be a Teaching Hospital under Mulungushi University.

#### **(iv) Ndola Central Hospital**

Mr. Speaker, similar developments have taken place at Ndola Central Hospital, with the following milestones already achieved:

- (i) CT Scan has been purchased, installed and is functional;
- (ii) A new 7 bed dialysis unit has been setup and is fully functional.
- (iii) New plans for the upgrade of Ndola Central Hospital have been made. These include new construction and rehabilitation of existing infrastructure. New construction will include a new emergency department, and a new administration block.

- (iv) New state of the art ophthalmology equipment has been bought, installed and is fully functional;
- (v) New lab equipment has been installed e.g viral load machines; these will lead to improvement in the care of HIV/AIDS patients.
- (vi) Ongoing construction of a new 120 bed capacity modern psychiatric unit which will be self-contained with laundry, kitchen, rehabilitation services among others.

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**(v) Kitwe Central Hospital**

Mr. Speaker, at Kitwe Central Hospital, the following has been undertaken in line with the modernization programme:

- (i) New orthotics/Prosthetics equipment for the production of artificial limbs and braces has been bought and installed.
- (ii) New state of the art physiotherapy equipment has been bought delivered and will be installed in the next few weeks
- (iii) ICU equipment has been bought, installed and is functional.
- (iv) A new CT Scan has been bought and is functional
- (v) A new X-ray machine has been bought and functional
- (vi) A new four (04) bed Renal unit is functional
- (vii) A new eye department equipment has been bought, installed and is functional
- (viii) New theatre equipment was bought, installed and is functional

**(vi) Other Facilities**

Mr. Speaker, this programme is not only limited to the hospitals along the line of rail but is targeted at all our institutions across the country. Developments at other facilities are as follows:

- (i) Government has procured new laundry and kitchen equipment for all levels of existing facilities. This equipment has been installed and is functional;
- (ii) New CT Scans for Kasama, Mansa General Hospitals and Chipata Central Hospital have been bought and the equipment is already in the country. The installation of this equipment will be done in the next few weeks.
- (iii) New oxygen plants and piping up to 150 outlets for Lewanika and Mansa General Hospitals have been bought. The equipment is in transit to Zambia.
- (iv) New state of the art ophthalmology equipment for all levels of existing hospitals has been bought, installed and functional.
- (v) New dental equipment for all levels of care has been procured and is in the country. Distribution and installation of this equipment will commence soon.
- (vi) Upgrading to 1<sup>st</sup> level hospital of the following health facilities; Chilenje, Matero is underway. Next in the phased approach will be Chipata, Chawama and Kanyama Urban Health Centres. This is being done in conjunction with the Japanese Government.
- (vii) Kasama and Mansa General Hospitals have been approved as internship sites by Health Professions Council of Zambia. This is inclusive of the already existing internship sites (UTH, Levy Mwanawasa, Kitwe, Chipata and Ndola Central Hospitals). This is ongoing and the goal is to have all the provincial hospitals as internship sites.
- (viii) Viral Load testing machines have been installed in the 9 provincial centers including UTH, Ndola, Livingstone, Mongu, Mansa, Kabwe, Chipata, Kasama, and Solwezi. We anticipate Muchinga Province to start offering Viral Load testing before the end of 2016. These Viral Load Machines have also the capacity to test for HIV in Children below 18 months (Early Infant Diagnosis of HIV). Therefore Placement of this equipment in provincial centers will decentralize this service from

the current 3 Laboratories i.e. UTH, CIDRZ Kalingalinga and Arthur Davison Hospital to provincial Hospitals for ease access of the service.

- (ix) In order to improve the collection and management of Laboratory results and information, the Ministry has installed an electronic Laboratory information system at UTH, Ndola and Livingstone.
- (x) The Ministry has also embarked on an accreditation programme for its Laboratories to ensure Laboratory adherence to international standards and attain international recognition.

### **(vii) Human Resource Development**

Mr. Speaker, in order to ensure that the modern equipment matches with available skills, my Ministry has also trained specialized personnel in specialist and super specialist fields, employed Cardiac Surgeons and Partnered with specialized hospitals, organizations and interest groups in order to effectively offer specialist services.

Mr. Speaker, 121 Senior Resident Medical Doctors are currently pursuing Master of Medicine at UNZA, CBU and at foreign institutions .These are in fields of:

Surgery(34) Anaesthesia and critical care(16), Obstetrics and Gynecology(28) Pediatrics(13), Psychiatry(4), Orthopaedic &Trauma(5), Internal Medicine(10), Pathology(2), Nuclear Medicine(2), Ear Nose and Throat(2), Urology(1), Neurology(1), Cardiac Surgery(1), Cardiology(1), and Radiology(2).

Therefore, the measures we are taking will not only ensure that treatment abroad is significantly reduced but will also promote medical tourism and research in Zambia.

In conclusion, let me reiterate that we have reached a point of no return in our journey towards quality Universal Health Coverage; we have on the one hand an increasingly enlightened community

and on the other a growing capacity to respond to the emerging health care needs of our own country and beyond.

**Mr. Speaker, I thank you**