



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

**Presented to the National Assembly
by**

Dr. Joseph Kasonde MP, Hon. Minister of Health

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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, 2nd 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.