



**AZAPO**  
AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

**TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FROM: AZAPO EASTERN CAPE SECRETARY FOR PUBLICITY & INFORMATION**

**DATE: 04 May, 2025**

**SUBJECT: AZAPO EASTERN CAPE SLAMS THE APPALING STATE OF DORA NGINZA HOSPITAL AND CALLING FOR HEADS TO ROLL AFTER ACTS OF GROSS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.**

AZAPO in the Eastern Cape says the appalling state of public hospitals in the Eastern Cape has been ongoing since 2020. In 2021 a report from the Public Protector found that neither Dora Nginza Hospital nor Uitenhage Provincial Hospital complied with the Constitution and other legislation.

Today we are shocked by a viral footage from Dora Nginza Hospital where it shows pregnant women forced to sit on chairs and lie on the floor while waiting for care. In some instances, patients are forced to sharing beds, with poorly maintained infrastructure, leaking roofs, pigeons roaming wards, and dirty beds which are some of the challenges that are faced by the hospital.

AZAPO calls for accountability, transparency and consequence management from the Provincial Government in order to stabilise services at Dora Nginza Hospital. It is said that some women would bring their own linen to the hospital. In 2025, it cannot be that we are still hearing the same chorus from Provincial Dept of Health of lack of resources to discharge the constitutional mandate of providing basic human rights to our people.

AZAPO says the right to dignity, equality and reproductive healthcare are being stripped away and violated because Dept of Health officials are failing to discharge their constitutional mandate. It is with this reason that AZAPO calls for consequence management and immediate suspension of superintendent-General of the hospital.

Dora Nginza Hospital has “an ever-increasing demand on maternity and neonatal services that far outweighs the physical and human resources available”. Thus we witness pregnant women sleeping on chairs and mattresses, and patients waiting several days for elective caesarean sections.

AZAPO believes that one of the problems of Dora Nginza Hospital emanates from poor foresight, planning and transparency from the current Government. The Eastern Cape Provincial government failed to make provisions to expand Public Infrastructure of Healthcare where Maternity Wards were supposed to be their priority.

We call upon the Provincial Government to prioritize the infrastructure and expansion of Dora Nginza Hospital in this financial year, while doing so, the immediate suspensions of senior officials from the Dept of Health should be underway in order to restore stability, credibility and functional hospital so that services can reach our people.

**END**

**Issued by AZAPO Department of Publicity and Information.**

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