



**MINISTRY
HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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Minister Nzimande condemns criminal activity at universities, calls on communities, staff & students to mobilise, protect assets

31 August 2016 - The Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande, has called on all relevant arms of the state to redouble their efforts to track down, prosecute and jail the small band of criminals working to destroy the country's education infrastructure.

Reacting to the burning of the main examination hall at UKZN's Pietermaritzburg campus, as well as the reported torching of a truck belonging to the University of Zululand this week, Minister Nzimande said "there can never be a rational justification for the destruction of assets that we as a country need to empower the next generation so that they can play their full role in building the South African economy."

He called on police, prosecutors and other responsible state institutions to "track down this criminal minority and put an end to their barbaric behaviour".

"Communities, parents, students, and staff must also mobilise in protection of the country's learning and teaching facilities," he said.

Ends

Issued by the Ministry of Higher Education and Training