

President opens Dube Trade Port



The Dube Square at the trade port

President Jacob Zuma unveiled the Dube Trade port last Thursday at the King Shaka International airport.

The launch of the trade port took place a few weeks after the Presidents State of the Nation address in which he unveiled a major infrastructure development programme that is part of the Presidential Infrastructure Co-ordination Commission. The Trade Port in which

the King Shaka International Airport is located, has been operational for 22 months and the first phase has been completed.

Included in the construction is the of the Cargo Terminal, Trade House, 29 South, Dube Square, Trade Zone and Dube City infrastructure, AgriZone and the IT and Telecommunications platform.

The presidency said that in the long-term, an establishment of

an Aerotropolis in the north of Durban, stretching from Umhlanga to Ballito, which will boost economic development and job creation in the North Coast and take forward the campaign against poverty, unemployment and inequality, is envisaged in the port.

According to the Presidency, the relocation of the old airport in 2003 was to establish an integrated multi-modal logistics platform that would

link the national road and rail systems to the seaports of Durban and Richards Bay, with an added value of air infrastructure to accommodate intercontinental-wide body aircraft.

After officially opening the port, Zuma also unveiled a statue of educationist, author, newspaper publisher and founding President of the ANC John Langalibalele Dube, after whom the trade port is named.