

# LODGE BOOSTS TOURISM

By ANIL SINGH

**PRIVATE** business and government worked together to build a luxury lodge in a nature reserve in northern KZN.

The Jozini Tiger Lodge is near Pongola, next to the massive Jozini Dam.

Inside, the lodge looks like a top hotel – it has been rated with four stars!

King Goodwill Zwelithini spoke at the lodge's official opening last week.

He told the people gathered at the fancy event that the lodge is a major boost for KZN tourism and will also provide jobs for people in the Pongola area.

The lodge has 60 rooms and is about three-and-a-half hour's drive from Durban.

There is a lot of wild life in the unspoilt bushveld around the lodge.

Visitors will be able to admire animals such as white rhino, kudu, impala, nyala, wildebeest, zebra, buffalo, elephants and giraffe. The dam is also full of different species of fish.

Signature Life Hotels with owners Cobus Brecher, Nathi Thusi, Alex Shazi and Albert Lourens went into a partnership with the National Empowerment Fund to develop the lodge.



Alex Shazi, one of the owners of the Jozini Tiger Lodge, with King Goodwill Zwelithini, Zola Mafu and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi at the lodge's opening.