

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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PROCEEDINGS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The House met at Nieuwmeester Dome at 14:00.

The Speaker took the Chair and requested members to observe a moment of silence for prayer or meditation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The SPEAKER: Order hon members. Can you please take your seats. Hon Dithebe, can you please not disturb Minister Mantashe. The dean of the executive. Hon members, I wish to acknowledge in the gallery of our Parliament the presence of Members of Parliament of the Republic of Kenya, from the Public Accounts Committee, and their support staff who are here, who have been visiting our Public Accounts Committee. They are here for 30 minutes. [Applause.] Hon members, you can take your seats. Thank you very much.

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I am sure a lot of you who watch some of the social media like TikTok, I am sure you have always seen members of the public imitating one of the foreign members, and hon Odhiambo is one of the people you know very well. So, hon members from Kenya, you can send the members' wishes to her. But all other Members of the Kenyan Parliament, you are most welcome to our House. We know that you are not going to stay longer with us, you will move to your next engagements.

Hon members ... I've heard but I've not heard. [Laughter.] Hon members, we'll now have the first item on the Order Paper, which is Member Statements. I'll recognise the DA.

Mr S G VILAKAZI: Hon Speaker ...

The SPEAKER: Sorry, hon member, if you can take your seat. I made a mistake. It's the ANC first, followed by the DA. Hon members, I've heard. I will do the honourable thing. Yes, take your seats. The ANC.

THE NATIONAL RAIL MASTER PLAN

(Member's Statement)

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Mr C N MALEMATJA (ANC): Madam Speaker, the ANC welcomes the recent approval of the National Rail Master Plan, a transformative total of R2 trillion long-term strategy designed to rebuild the nation's rail network as the definitive backbone of the economy by 2050.

This ambitious roadmap serves as the practical implementation of the 2022 National Rail Policy, shifting the country toward a rail-centric logistics model. The plan is built on three core objectives. The first is a targeted push to increase rail freight from the current 165 million tonnes to 250 million tonnes by 2030, significantly reducing the burden on the national road network.

The second is a brownfield to optimise existing infrastructure combined with targeted greenfield expansions, aiming to lower logistics costs and improve export competitiveness for the mining and agricultural sectors. Finally, economic modelling that suggests that for every R1 million invested in the National Rail Master Plan, NRMP, South Africa's gross domestic product, GDP will grow by R4,3 million, stimulating industries such as steel, cement, and engineering while creating thousands of new jobs.

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The master plan emphasises private sector participation, opening the tracks to third-party operators and private investment to bridge the funding gap that the state cannot manage alone. By integrating passenger, freight, and potential high-speed rail, the government is laying the foundation for a resilient world-class transport economy.

The ANC views transport as a strategic national asset and a critical driver for industrialisation. Its policy stance, solidified in the 2024 Manifesto. The subsequent 2026 National Rail Master Plan, focuses on three pillars, repositioning rail as the backbone of the economy ... [Inaudible.] Thank you so much. [Time expired.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, I know there was a bit of a noise from my left. Just indicate to you and as Mr Xaso is explaining to hon Reddy, the sequence on the Member Statements is different from the other issues that were resolved from the Rules Committee. I just thought I needed to clarify that. The hon member of the DA.

Mr V G REDDY: Speaker.

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FINANCES OF SA AIRWAYS

(Member's Statement)

Mr S G VILAKAZI (DA): Hon Speaker, two weeks ago the new leadership of SA Airways came before this House to present yet another set of disclaimed audits for SA Airways, SAA and SAA Technical. Here I must stress that this concerns a new chief executive officer, as the previous chief executive officer resigned along with three board members, with little to no public explanation given by the Minister as to reasons why.

A disclaimed audit suggests that the Auditor-General cannot rely on the information provided regarding SAA's finances. This is unsurprising as SAA itself does not seem to know whether it is making a profit or loss and cites different revenue numbers depending on the day of the week.

The number we should be focusing on is R472 million. That is how much SAA's operations lost last year. Only by selling its lucrative slot at London Heathrow did it manage to keep its head above water. But what happens when it runs out of assets to sell? The story would be familiar. Taxpayer bailout for SAA

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to add to the R133 billion that it has already received to date. We cannot allow this to happen.

As a matter of urgency, the Minister must appoint an independent forensic review of SAA's finances and keep the public informed. The taxpayer cannot keep SAA in the sky anymore. I thank you.

Mr V G REDDY: On a point of order Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: You want to take a point of order when your member is supposed to speak?

Mr V G REDDY: No, I waited. I said, before he speaks, I want to raise a point of order.

The SPEAKER: Can we have your member speak first?

Mr V G REDDY: Sure, absolutely. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FORMER PRESIDENT ZUMA

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(Member's Statement)

Mr C V SHONGWE (MK PARTY): Hon Speaker, the MK Party wishes to acknowledge and commend its president, Jacob Zuma, for demonstrating true leadership ...

IsiZulu:

... ukuthi ibukeka kanjani.

English:

The leadership that puts ...

IsiZulu:

... abantu phambili.

English:

This week ...

IsiZulu:

... .. uMongameli Zuma unikezele ngezindlu ezintathu. Eyodwa Ekurhuleni, eDaveyton kuwadi 69. Eyesibili eKatlehong kuwadi 65, eyesithathu eMzimkhulu.

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English:

These are not just houses, they are dignity restored, hope renewed and a reminder that our people have not been forgotten.

IsiXhosa:

ILUNGU ELIHLONIPHEKILEYO: Yimali yabakwaGupta.

Mr C V SHONGWE: Speaker, at the time when millions still live in informal settlements ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order hon members! I have ruled in this House that none of you are just going to press the microphone and speak. Can we please be in order? Can you proceed hon member.

IsiZulu:

Mnu C V SHONGWE: Umtshele Somlomo uthi iveni ilindile la ngaphandle ngizomfaka evenini.

English:

At a time when millions still live in informal settlements, when young families are raising children without proper shelter, and when housing backlog continues to grow, the so-

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called Government of National unity, GNU has failed to deliver a meaningful change.

Promises are made, budgets are allocated, yet our people are still waiting. The truth is simple. Our people do not need plans, they need homes. Under President Zuma, housing delivery reached the people. Today, through the actions of the MK Party, we are reminded that it can be done again.

The MK Party stands ready to govern, in waiting to restore dignity, accelerate delivery, and prioritise housing for all South Africans.

IsiZulu:

Nokuhambisa abokufika ngokungemthetho nezi-spaza zethu zibuye. Ngiyabonga Somlomo.

English:

The SPEAKER: Hon Reddy, if it's the matter that you were discussing with hon Xaso, I have already been advised that you want the matter to be dealt with by the Rules Committee again. Thank you, hon Reddy.

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Mr V G REDDY: Hon Speaker, just to clarify, I have had a discussion with Mr Xaso, and we've agreed that the order for statements and questions is a matter that will be discussed at the Rules Committee, and the same procedure that has been adopted for declarations will also be considered for those two items. I just wanted to place that on record, and for the Hansard to take note.

The SPEAKER: That's exactly the matter I've just summarised for you, hon Reddy. But maybe to quote your president, he used to say, even if you don't speak, you are still a man.

IsiZulu:

Noma ungakhulumanga useyindoda.

English:

So, I'm sure you'll remember that going forward. Hon Ntlangwini.

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: Speaker, I just think it's sheer incompetence also of this House that we must come back every time and amend Rules week on week. I think we by now must

establish and know who the official opposition is and know what needs to be done.

Can we get it done once and for all on all and every Order of this House than to come back every time and amend Rules. It's sheer incompetence. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: I am sure, hon Ntlangwini, the EFF does have a representative in the Rules Committee. I'm sure your member and all other members will not be incompetent in dealing with their responsibilities. Thank you very much, hon member. Now we take the ANC for their Member Statement.

MASSACRE OF THE MOONSAMY FAMILY

(Member's Statement)

Ms J L MOKOENA (ANC): Hon Speaker, the ANC expresses its shock and outrage at the horrific massacre of seven members of the Moonsamy family in Newark near KwaDukuza on Tuesday, 21 April. This calculated act of brutality, which claimed lives ranging from a 20-year-old woman to an 83-year-old matriarch, has struck at the very heart of the KwaZulu-Natal community.

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The family was allegedly targeted in a violent house robbery at their home. Reports indicated that the victims were abducted and kidnapped from their residence, robbed of their belongings and their family vehicle and subjected to further trauma, including allegations of sexual assault. They were transported to a remote area in Melmoth, where they were executed and their bodies later discovered in the veld.

We condemn this act of cowardice in the strongest possible terms. This tragedy serves as a harrowing reminder of the pervasive levels of violent crime that continue to shatter families and leave neighbourhoods in a state of mourning.

We acknowledge and commend the swift action taken by the SA Police Service, which has led to the arrest of three suspects and the recovery of the family's vehicle. However, the pursuit of justice is not over. We demand that the full might of the law be applied to ensure these perpetrators never walk free again.

We convey our deepest condolences to the surviving relatives of the Moonsamy family. As we observed the mass funeral this past weekend ... [Time expired.]

QUARRY A HEALTH HAZARD FOR MDLANKOMO RESIDENTS

(Member's Statement)

IsiXhosa:

Nksz N V MENTE-NKUNA (EFF): Somlomo, abantu belali yaseMdlankomo kwiWadi 8 eNyandeni eLibode baphethwe kakubi ngurhulumente we-ANC neSebe leZimbwa neMithombo yePetroliyam phantsi koMphathiswa uGwede Mantashe. Aba bantu kudala bezama ukuba isebe lingenelele kumba welitye elombiwa kwilali yabo, kodwa kuyacaca ukuba urhwaphilizo nokunyoba sezingenelele kuba ...

English:

... the regional office for minerals ...

IsiXhosa:

... inike le nkampani imvume yokuba iqhushumbise (blast) ilitye kwaye abantu baxelelwa ukuba mabaye kulinda endleleni. Ebusuku, emini, abantu, iintsana nabantu abadala bahlala kuhola wendlela iR61 phambi kokuba le nkampani iqhushumbise ilitye.

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UMphathiswa wezaMahlathi, ezokuLoba kunye nokusiNgqongileyo wathi akanalo ulwazi ...

English:

... about the environmental impact assessment ...

IsiXhosa:

... eyathi yenziwa kule ndawo, ngoko kuyacaca ukuba yenziwa ngobuqhophololo. UMphathiswa we-ANC uGwede Mantashe wathi uyazama ukuncedisana naba bantu ngokuthumela iofisi yakhe ukuze kuyekwe. Le nto yayekwa iinyanga ezimbini kuphela. Ibuyile ngoku kwaye kwezi nyanga zimbini zidlulileyo, abahlali basiwe endleleni kuba aba bantu basebenzisa la mgodi beza kuqhushumbisa ilitye.

Okwesibini, ngoku kunikezelwe le mvume kubantu abatsha kwaye inkosi yaphaya ibhatalwa ngurhulumente kunye nala nkampani iphaya ukuze iqhube ibanike imvume. Ayihlali nakule lali inababantu banengxaki, ihlala kwilali ekude lee. Mphathiswa uGwede Mantashe nika abantu ilungelo labo lokuba bazicingele ngelali yabo.

HIGH LEVEL OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

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(Member's Statement)

Mr S S ZONDO (IFP): Hon Speaker, the IFP notes with serious concern the persistently high level of youth unemployment and the rising cost of living, both of which continue to place immense pressure on South African households, deepening the poverty and inequality, and undermining the dignity of the future and ... [Inaudible] ... of millions of young South Africans.

Political freedom has not yet delivered meaningful socioeconomic justice for all South Africans, as millions still face limited opportunities for dignified life. The interventions introduced by the Government of the National Unity are welcome. However, far greater urgency, co-ordination, and measurable implementation is required to meaningfully address the socioeconomic challenges confronting South Africans.

The IFP submits that the starting point in confronting the South African unemployment crisis must be deliberate prioritisation of South Africans within the labour market. In this regard, we consider this should be given to the

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implementation of the 80/20 employment framework, requiring companies to ensure that majority of their workforce consists of South African citizens.

In addition, entry-level and low-skilled employment opportunities should be prioritised for South Africans, particularly youth, as part of a broader strategy to tackle unemployment, expand economic participation, and restore dignity through meaningful work. I thank you, Speaker.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND XENOPHOBIA

(Member's Statement)

Ms S P JAMA (ANC): Hon Speaker, in his 2026 Freedom Day address, President Cyril Ramaphosa reminded us that our democracy rests on the rule of law, human dignity and Ubuntu. He confronted the rise of xenophobic sentiment linked to migration and acknowledged that South Africans have legitimate concerns about public services, economic opportunities and border management.

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These concerns are real and must be addressed, but under no circumstances should these descend into lawlessness. When citizens take the law into their own hands, they undermine democracy and violate the freedom they claim to defend.

Xenophobia is not patriotism; it betrays the solidarity that sustained our liberation struggle, the African nations that sheltered us and the values on which our democracy is built.

The state must secure our borders, enforce our laws and restore public confidence, but society must also reject division, violence and scapegoating. Our prosperity is tied to the peace and development of the continent, and building the future demands calm, principled leadership.

We therefore call on all South Africans to allow the state to perform its constitutional duty, engage through lawful processes and refuse to be divided. South Africa cannot build its future through fear. We cannot solve economic challenges by turning on one another, nor honour our liberation history while abandoning the principles that defined it. Thank you.

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(Member's Statement)

Ms J A BASSON (PA): Speaker, I rise today to highlight the engagement with Stellenbosch University on the urgent matter of transformation. Our institution of higher learning cannot continue to drag their feet while students and staff face exclusion and inequality. Transformation is not a slogan. It must be visible in language policy, access, and in culture.

Stellenbosch University has acknowledged the challenges, but acknowledgement alone, without decisive action, is meaningless. We cannot allow any institution to remain a fortress of privilege.

Parliament must hold them accountable to ensure the campus reflects the diversity and justice our democracy demands. The time for half measures is over. Stellenbosch University must accelerate transformation, not for compliance, but for fairness and dignity, the youth and our future.

Even when target sets are met and exceeded, the bar keeps on being moved, and our coloured children's rejection is hidden

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behind administration and explanations. This needs to be looked into as soon as possible.

SPECIALISED POLICE UNIT TO DEAL WITH MINE CRIME

(Members's Statement)

Mr J R B LORIMER (DA): Madam Speaker, we are losing the battle against mine crime. We need a specialised police unit to tackle it now. Vala Umgodi has come and gone and the situation is worse. It is not just mining without a licence and illegal immigration and trespass; it is forced labour and terror, murder and extortion, slave labour, bullied communities, stolen cables and destroyed infrastructure.

It is taking out and destroying value of around R60 billion every year. If mined properly, around R15 billion of that would be paid to the state in taxes and royalties. The police can't cope. At stations like Langlaagte they don't go out to tackle large armed gangs warring with automatic weapons in the night, for them it's too dangerous. They have neither the weaponry, the leadership nor the knowledge.

Mine crime is complicated. It can hide behind fake documents and bought permissions. It is covered by obscure and corrupt bureaucracy and the need for highly technical knowledge.

That is why we need to give our police the tools to do the job. We need to create a specialised police unit to deal with mine crime. It must have the technical skills to determine crime, the prosecutorial muscle to ensure that criminals are swiftly convicted, and the firepower to win against ruthless gangs that steal the wealth and life chances of south Africa's people.

We can no longer delay. The mine crime gangs are strangling the mining industry and stealing one of the ropes that we could climb out of poverty.

ILLEGAL FOREIGNERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

(Member's Statement)

IsiXhosa:

Mnu N L S KWANKWA (UDM): Somlomo, thina sifuna ukushukuxa lo mba wabantu bangaphandle abeza apha ngokungekho mthethweni.

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Kuyinene nenyano emsulwa ukuba abantu baqhankqalazayo apha kweli lizwe bathetha into eyiyo. Alikho ilizwe elinguvulazibhuqe, oxhel'eyakhe akabuzwa apho abantu bangena nje bafike baphangele. Sithelekiswa ngoosomashishini abamhlophe abangabathandiyo abantu bamnyama basuka ngaphandle nto nje bayabaxhaphaza.

Asikwazi xa abantu boMzantsi Afrika betyiwa ziikonsi ezinyaweni sibaphikise sithi bathetha unobenani okanye sithi bathetha abazithethayo yimbini yezolo kaGxuluwe. Urhulumente unoxanduva lokusombulula ingxaki yabantu abangena kweli ngokungekho mthethweni ukuze abaseMzantsi Afrika ngokungekho mthethweni mabathathe imithwalo yabo baphume ngaphandle ukuze sikwazi ukujongana nemicelimingeni yaseMzantsi Afrika.

UIan Khama owangumongameli waseBotswana wathetha latsola wathi, abakwazi oomongameli beAfrika namazwe ukumosha amazwe abo balindele ukuba uMzantsi Afrika ubeyi ...

English:

... labour bureau for the rest of the African continent without accountability ...

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IsiXhosa:

... ngezinto abazenzayo. Ayinanto yakwenza ne ...

English:

... Pan Africanism...

IsiXhosa:

... yimfungumfungu nje ekufuneka siyilungisile. Abo babamba umngcelele mabangacaluli abantu ngobuhlanga. Mababambe umngcelele ukuze kulungiswe lo mba ngendlela eyiyo. Camagu.

ROOTING OUT OF CORRUPTION WITHIN SA POLICE SERVICE.

(Member's Statement)

Ms R C ADAMS (ANC): Speaker, the ANC welcomes the vital work of the Madlanga Commission that was initiated by President Ramaphosa, to investigate and expose corruption and malfeasance within the SA Police Service. This process reflects a stern commitment to democratic processes such as accountability, transparency and reinstating public trust in our law enforcement institutions.

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The SPEAKER: Can you come closer to your microphone. Come closer to the microphone.

Ms R C ADAMS (ANC): The ANC has unwaveringly prioritised the fight against corruption as reflected in our renewal agenda and the policies which are aimed at building a capable, ethical, and developmental state. The work done by the commission strengthens these efforts by ensuring that wrongdoing is confronted decisively and without fear or favour.

The commission's hearings have been instrumental in exposing the depth of infiltration by organised crime within our law enforcement agencies. By providing a platform for whistleblowers and brave officials to testify, the commission is finally addressing the systemic rot of tender corruption that has long hindered the fight against crime.

As reaffirmed in the 2026 state of the nation address, we remain resolute in rooting out corruption across all sectors, strengthening oversight mechanisms and professionalising the public service.

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We further support the implementation of the commission's recommendations and call for consequence management against those implicated. In doing so, we advance the vision of an accountable state that serves the people of South Africa. I thank you Speaker.

WORKERS DAY CELEBRATION

(Member's Statement)

IsiZulu:

Nk H H MBELE (MKP): Mhlonishwa Somlomo, njengoba sigubhe usuku lwabasebenzi ngoMeyi 1 ngesonto eledlule iqembu leMK lihlonipha izigidi zabasebenzi baseNingizimu Afrika ekukhuliseni leli lizwe ngaphansi kwezimo zobunzima, ukungalingani kanye nokuhlukunyezwa.

Sihlonipha labo abalwele iholo elifanele isithunzi kanye nelungelo lokuhlangana. Umzabalazo wabo wakhulisa inkululeko esikhuluma ngayo namhlanje, kodwa ke ukungasebenzi kusezingeni elibuhlungu kakhulu. Izigidi azinawo umsebenzi. Labo abasebenzayo phansi kwengcindezi enkulu. Amanani okudla

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akhuphukayo, izindleko zokuhamba, kanye nemiholo emile ecindezela imindeni emaphethelweni.

Abasebenzi abaphili, baphila ngokuzama ukusinda. Isithembiso sokulungisa kwezomnotho asikafezeki namanje. Iqembu leMK lime ngokuqinile nabantu abasebenzayo kukholelwa ukuthi ingcebo yaleli lizwe kufanele izuze labo abayikhiqizayo. Sibiza isenzo esiqinile sokudala imisebenzi ukuvikela abasebenzi nokwakha kabusha izimboni zethu. Iqembu leMK okufanele ukuthi lihlale lizilungusile lizobuyisela isithunzi kubasebenzi futhi libeke bona phakathi nokuguqula komnotho. Ngiyabonga. [Ihlombe.]

HOUSEHOLD HUNGER AND COST OF LIVING

(Member's Statement)

Mr N M PAULSEN (EFF): Speaker, hunger is a daily reality for millions of South Africans. As a country, we produce enough food, but that food is not reaching households. The problem is not supply; it is access. Nearly one in five households struggle to put food on the table, and many go to bed hungry every night. The cost of living is crushing working people.

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Families are spending most of their income just to survive, with food taking a large share of what little they have. At the same time, South Africa throws away millions of tonnes of food every year, food that is still safe to eat. Retailers would rather destroy this food than donate it, because the law exposes them to legal risk.

Our communities are suffering both hunger and poor nutrition. Children are not growing properly, while unhealthy food is making others overweight. This crisis hits black households, women and children the hardest. Many families led by women are going hungry. It is unacceptable that children go hungry in a country that wastes so much food. If we recovered even half of the food we waste, we could feed millions.

South Africa needs a clear food donations policy and legal protection to ensure food reaches those who need it most. Thank you very much.

**BIDDERS ANNOUNCED FOR MULTI-BILLION-RAND REDEVELOPMENT OF SIX
PORTS OF ENTRY**

(Member's Statement)

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Ms M MODISE MPYA (ANC): Hon Speaker, The Border Management Authority has officially announced the successful private sector bidders for the multi-billion-rand redevelopment of South Africa's six most strategic land ports of entry.

The ANC welcomes this announcement as a victory for the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan. Under the leadership of the ANC-led government, the establishment and now the expansion of the Border Management Authority, BMA, represents a fulfilled promise to protect South African sovereignty while fostering regional integration and marks a critical milestone in the government's commitment to modernising the nation's infrastructure and securing its borders.

The project, executed through a public-private partnership, focuses on the redesign and total overhaul of the following six ports, Beitbridge, Lebombo, Maseru Bridge, Ficksburg, Kopfontein and Oshoek.

The redevelopment will transform these ports into One-Stop Border Posts featuring state-of-the-art technology, dedicated lanes for various vehicle classes, and integrated digital

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systems to facilitate the seamless movement of people and goods.

THE DA PRESSES CHARGES AGAINST NELSON MANDELA BAY MAYOR

(Member's Statement)

Ms A M VAN ZYL (DA): Hon Speaker, while taps are dry, sewage flows streets and pylons lie on the ground, with the Special Investigating Unit, SIU, probing numerous corruption cases, the Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay, Babalwa Lobishe, had the luxury of attending the Metro FM Music Awards in eThekweni on 25 April 2026.

The DA has submitted parliamentary questions on who paid for the trip, but it is fair to assume that the very few ratepayers ... [Interjections.] ...

The SPEAKER: Could you try and come closer to the mic?

Ms A M VAN ZYL (DA): Shall I start again?

The SPEAKER: You may.

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Ms A M VAN ZYL (DA): Hon Speaker, while taps are dry, sewage floods streets, and pylons lie on ground, with the SIU probing numerous corruption cases, the Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay, Babalwa Lobishe, had the luxury of attending the Metro FM Music Awards in eThekweni on the 25th of April 2026.

The DA has submitted parliamentary questions on who paid for the trip, but it is fair to assume that the very ratepayers, without water and electricity, living in sewage and violent crime, footed the bill. This is the very same mayor that repeatedly failed to appear before the committee and had to be threatened by formal summons.

Nelson Mandela Bay residents deserve better than this. The DA calls on the hon Minister Hlabisa to draw a line in the sand and choose to fight for the residents. His department transfers billions of rands to metros like the Nelson Mandela Bay and he cannot allow for precious resources to flow down the drain due to mismanagement.

Having pressed criminal charges against the mayor for lying to Parliament, the DA will support any decisive action against the ANC, EFF, PA coalition to get Nelson Mandela Bay working.

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I thank you.

**WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY TRAINING CENTRE TO ADVANCE SKILLS IN
CONSTRUCTION**

(Member's Statement)

Mr G D KGABO: (ANC): Hon Speaker, we welcome the establishment of the new training centre at Walter Sisulu University, a vital intervention to address the skills shortage in the construction sector. This initiative speaks directly to the serious and urgent need to equip young people with practical skills which will enable participation in infrastructure development and economic growth.

The ANC has long listed skills development as a foundation of transformation, emphasising the alignment of education and training with the needs of our economy. This is reflected by government policies that promote artisan development, technical training, and expanded access to vocational education.

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The successive state of the nation address has emphasised this commitment, highlighting the importance of investing in TVET colleges, strengthening partnerships with the industry, and building capable personnel to drive infrastructure development.

The Walter Sisulu University training centre is a clear and practical expression of these commitments, creating pathways for young people to gain relevant skills while supporting national development priorities.

As the ANC, we commend this initiative and call for its replication across the country to ensure inclusive growth and sustainable job creation.

Setswana:

Ke a leboga Mmusakgotla.

COMMUNITIES RAVISHED BY SOCIAL ILLS

(Member's Statement)

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Ms D E JAMES (ACTION SA): Hon Speaker, our communities across this country, particularly the Cape Flats, are ravished by social ills, abandoned children, long waiting lists for rehab, Sassa fraud, you name it. Pensioners are standing in queues for hours.

These challenges require a capable ethical leader. Instead, we have a department engulfed in a total crisis of governance led by a Minister who is the main instigator. First, it was the appointment of a 22-year-old niece of a special advisor, as chief of staff without qualifications needed. When asked about it, she did not know.

Just this week, it was exposed that the Minister allegedly forced an employee to pay over a portion of her salary to her daughter. I am not sure what the story is going to be for that. Most outrageous is the cars-for-cadres scandal, where the Minister received two luxury SUV cars from foreign entities, supposedly for the ANC Women's League, slyly concealing them from executive and intellectual capital, IC disclosure laws by registering them in her children's name. The Minister told us it is to protect them from the creditors. A Minister drenched in scandals cannot possibly do a job.

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Afrikaans:

So kan dit nie aangaan nie.

English:

We reiterate our call to the President: Fire this Minister immediately. I cannot help but notice the silence of the GNU collaborators. Are you comfortable sitting alongside Cabinet crooks? You are complacent ...

Afrikaans:

... en baie stil. Ek gaan lastig wees in hierdie departement.

English:

Minister, I am not sure where she is. We will see you tomorrow in the committee with the receipts.

Thank you.

THE NATIONAL RAIL MASTER PLAN LAUNCHED

(Minister's Response)

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The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT: Hon Speaker, I want to thank hon Malematja for drawing attention to the National Rail Master Plan, which is currently out for public comment. This National Rail Master Plan sketches out the long-term future of freight and passenger rail and is intended to ensure that we have an integrated, co-ordinated national framework for the future of rail over the next 30 years.

It's very important that all public transport and private sector stakeholders understand this plan and help to shape it at this formative stage. Public consultation will be taking place in KwaZulu-Natal at the Civic Centre on 7 May and in the Western Cape on 13 May also at the Civic Centre. I urge hon members to invite members of the public to attend these forums and to help us build a truly National Rail Master Plan. Thank you.

ROOTING OUT OF CORRUPTION WITHIN SA POLICE SERVICE.

(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Speaker and good afternoon, members. Just to appreciate the

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comments about the Madlanga Commission and the work that is being done, and also to commend the work that they've done. But I think it's important, when the Commission was established, quite a number of people were critical of the President's intention in terms of the work. I want to say, as we celebrate 30 years of our Constitution, these are institutions and processes that are available for the head of the state and government to be able to deal with challenges that are faced.

Therefore, we do appreciate the feedback from society, not only hon members, but the work that is being done by the Madlanga Commission. I think it's important every time when the commissions are being done as well that members of the public take cognisance of what the terms of reference are saying, because that helps in understanding their mandate and also the prescripts of how they operate.

Furthermore, we appreciate the work that has been done, but also what the President has given us: an instruction that when a report is issued in between, action should be taken. We commend the teams, the task team that has been working, its prosecution-led investigation that has been doing all the work

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to ensure that when the cases go to court, they do not fall apart.

We want to commend the leaders in terms of SAPS and NPA in ensuring that this does become a reality and it can be the work that we are commending. Thank you very much, Speaker.

**BIDDERS ANNOUNCED FOR MULTI-BILLION-RAND REDEVELOPMENT OF SIX
PORTS OF ENTRY
ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND XENOPHOBIA**

(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS: Hon Speaker, and to a number of members who raised interrelated issues on immigration and border management. Firstly, to respond to the comments regarding the public-private partnership that has been launched now for the redevelopment, demolition and physical rebuilding of our six busiest land ports of entry.

This is indeed a transformative project for our country, the biggest investment we've ever made in improving border management and our next goal must be to ensure that we get to

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the sod turning and the actual construction work starting. But we have made significant progress in getting to this point of announcing the selected bidders.

The second point is really on the revised White Paper for Citizenship, Immigration and Refugee Protection, an opportunity for this House to really make its voice heard and be part of the solution. We will be bringing draft legislation to implement that White Paper, and this is the opportunity for us to move from pointing out problems towards implementing solutions. If we work together now to process that White Paper into appropriate legislation, we really have an opportunity to take a gigantic leap forward in dealing with these problems.

Hon Speaker, our approach is clear. We are not against any people or group of people. We are for the rule of law. South Africa has laws in place. When people violate those laws, there must be consequences, but equally we also have laws in place upholding the basic constitutional rights of every person. Thank you very much.

**WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY TRAINING CENTRE TO ADVANCE SKILLS IN
CONSTRUCTION**

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(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT: Hon Speaker, I would like to respond to the notion of government neglect towards the building of houses and assistance by political parties, businesses and any other individual outside government in the provision of houses. That is not an indication of neglect.

Over five million houses have been built by the government of South Africa, providing for the poor whose policy advocates for the elderly, people with disabilities, child-headed households amongst others. This is done in line with the full ownership, which subsequently follows on top of the house that would have been provided through the allocation of title deeds. To fast-track the need for housing, we have also introduced savings stands for categories which are outside the three that have been outlined.

For the gap market, we have allocated no less than 6 000 which have been approved in the past financial year to deal with the gap market for individuals ending between 3 501 to 22 000 who receive a grant through National Housing Finance Corporation of government to ensure that we subsidise individuals who are

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falling within the gap market. Thirty-four billion that has been allocated to human settlement, yes, is not enough. But it has been properly utilised, particularly one for catalytic projects which also includes improving common facilities which are utilised. Our grants have been extended to make sure that we assist municipalities to deal with waste in human settlements, storm water, sanitation, and sewer.

Spatial planning is given to support municipalities to register informal settlements, to formalise settlements, and our target in the past financial year and the coming financial year is hovering around 205 of the informal settlements. We appreciate the support. All political parties do build. In Mpumalanga, the premier handed over no less than 11 houses built by the ANC to donate to people.

We don't just say if people donate, it's the party that cares for a government that doesn't. However, we welcome everybody to donate. So, we ensure that South Africans are housed properly, but what is allocated we give best to what we ...

[Inaudible.]

IsiZulu:

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Ngiyabonga.

THE DA PRESSES CHARGES AGAINST NELSON MANDELA BAY MAYOR

(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS: Hon Speaker and greetings to hon members, in relation to the question of the Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay visit, the department will confirm as to who paid for the expenses and if the trip was not sanctioned by the Council. I must emphasise hon Speaker that every member of the society or entity has an obligation to hold the mayor or public representative into account if public resources are abused on non-Council matters. Thank you, hon Speaker.

WORKERS DAY CELEBRATION

(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF LABOUR: Hon Speaker and thank you to the hon member of the MK Party. What the member did not say is that the ANC government, in the past 30 years of its rule, turned

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political emancipation into tangible action for the working class and legislation that it came with. The ANC ushered in a progressive Constitution which recognised the enduring commitment to dignity, equality, and justice for all workers. This Constitution was the foundation for the transformative legislation that safeguards labour rights, promotes fair working conditions, and empowers workers across sectors.

The Labour Relations Act, the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, the CCMA, the National Minimum Wage Act, among others. We recognise that our workforce remains deeply racialised and gendered, particularly in the upper echelons of strategic decision-making. Hence the Department of Employment and Labour.

The SPEAKER: Order, Minister! Hon Reddy, what's the point of order?

Mr V G REDDY: Hon Speaker, will the Minister tell us why only 14 people attended the May Day rally in Joburg?

The SPEAKER: That's not the point of order.

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Mr V G REDDY: The workers were only 14.

The SPEAKER: Hon Reddy, that's not the point of order, and you are distracting the member. Can you proceed, Minister.

The MINISTER OF LABOUR: Hon member must go back and do Mathematics. There were no 14 members there. I'm saying, hon Speaker, the Department of Employment and Labour gazetted the regulations that will enforce and make sure that the employers set targets on employment equity. It is the continued work of realisation of the hard-won democracy and the contribution of workers. Thank you, hon Speaker.

QUARRY A HEALTH HAZARD FOR MDLANKOMO RESIDENTS

CALL FOR SPECIALISED POLICE UNIT TO FIGHT MINE CRIME

(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: Speaker, I am dealing with two questions.

The first question is raised by the hon Mente-Nkuna. One of the things that the EFF ...

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IsiXhosa:

The SPEAKER: Ndicela usondele embokweni ke.

English:

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: One of the things the EFF must realise that the people of Mdlankomo are not all members of the EFF.

It has a presence, but, when we send a delegation to Mdlankomo to deal with the problem, they want us to account to them, and we are refusing to do that. They even asked us to do it in writing, and we are refusing to do that because we deal with a community, not a party, in Mdlankomo. That is why even last week, hon Speaker, our team was in Mdlankomo to listen to the question of the quarry, the community, and the problems involved.

One of the things we must all appreciate is that where there is mining, there will be blasting. Where there is blasting, there will always be confusion. I can caution you, hon Mente-Nkuna. I can caution you. The people of Zululand Anthracite Colliery had the attitude that it is better for this mine to go. Now it has gone, I am receiving representations that the

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departure of this mine is a disaster for that community. I appreciate that. Do not go to that extreme when you deal with problems of blasting and the neighbourhood. They will always be there when there is blasting and there are neighbourhoods.

That is the question I wanted to answer. We do attend to the Mdlankomo issue. We send technical teams there. We do not go there as political activists to campaign. We send people to deal with the technical issues in Mdlankomo. So, we know that case. We have a team working on it, and it is working on it.

Now let me go to the hon Lorimer. I want to give him only one brief answer. The hon Lorimer must appreciate that when there is black investment, there is investment. He has this mistake of thinking that investment is only white investment. I am not a subscriber to white supremacy. I am a subscriber to development and projects. If our people invest ... That is why, on 15 May, we are opening a shaft in Mpumalanga because black South Africans are investing. We appreciate that and want that to grow rather than dilute it by preferring white investment. Mining is growing. Thank you very much.

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The SPEAKER: Thank you. That concludes Ministers' responses. I know that there were many Ministers who wanted to respond, but, unfortunately, it is only seven allocations. Hon Chief Whip of the DA, what is your point of order? Hon Mente-Nkuna?

The CHIEF OF WHIP THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Madam Speaker, the Minister insinuated in his response, and I think you would have heard it, that the hon Lorimer is a subscriber to white supremacy because he juxtaposed himself to the hon Lorimer and said that he is not that. I think the Minister will find that both the hon Lorimer and his father, who was a Progressive Party Member of Parliament that fought against apartheid, are the furthest thing from that, and I would like to ask you to withdraw.

The SPEAKER: Hon member, I will look at the statement as well as the response by the Minister, and I will come back to the House in terms of the request that you are making. Hon Mente-Nkuna?

Ms N V MENTE-NKUNA: Speaker, it will not be correct for this Parliament and this House to accept what Minister Gwede is saying because the people of Mdlankomo have rights in terms of

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human rights. They are being abused. Being told to go and sit on a highway is wrong. The impact assessment that was done shows that their homes are cracking. A child fell into that pit and she died.

So, Gwede Mantashe comes here and says that is correct, that the people of Mdlankomo, because they are EFF members, must be abused. That cannot be accepted. Therefore, we will bring a petition to this House, and tomorrow we are going to the Public Protector. We will show you.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, I do not think we need to actually have a debate. I do think that the Minister might have ... I will come back, Minister, to take your point, and the hon Reddy. I do think that the Minister will have to clarify himself on the matter of people being told to go on the streets, as to whether that has happened and what his views are on that. Maybe, Minister, in the same vein, you might just clarify the point of whether you referred to the hon Lorimer as a white supremacist in your response.

Before I come to you, Minister, hon Reddy, do you have a point of order?

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Mr V G REDDY: Hon Speaker, the response to the MKP question by the Minister is ill informed. If she believes that there are houses being delivered and people have dignity in this country, she is living in cuckoo land. The fact that the MKP president had to go and donate houses reflects the poor condition of the state of housing delivery in this country. In fact, it is a fact that housing delivery has dropped considerably under your leadership.

The SPEAKER: Hon Reddy, you know very well that what you are now raising is a point of debate. It is not a point of order. It is a point of debate. May I ask the Minister to clarify on the two points?

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: Speaker, the first issue is that all I am saying is that we are dealing with the issue of Mdlankomo. It is not an EFF issue. It is a community issue. That is all I am saying. It is not an EFF issue. It is a community issue, and we deal with it as a community issue. That is why we are sending technical teams to deal with the issue technically. [Interjections.] Yes, that is it. You can bring the petition. We will receive it, but it will be attended to as a community issue.

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I did not say that the hon Lorimer is a white supremacist. I referred to white supremacy as a concept and an ideology, and I am saying that if he wants to put himself in that ideological framework, it is a choice he is making. I am talking about an ideology of white supremacy that is emerging and growing in South Africa. We must avoid it at all costs.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members. That concludes the responses on the Ministers' responses and clarification. I think if there are any matters that might have been missed, we will come back to this House. I am sure if members would like to pursue some matters with Ministers, we can encourage that to happen. The Secretary will now read the First Order.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT ON
PETITION FROM AMADIBA COMMUNITY REQUESTING NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TO INVESTIGATE THEIR CONCERNS REGARDING N2 WILD COAST TOLL
HIGHWAY PROJECT (MS N MBUTHUMA)**

Mr S D SELAMOLELA: Hon Speaker, friends and compatriot representatives of the people of South Africa, thanks very much for the opportunity to table this report for consideration and adoption by the House. The committee

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received a petition for consideration on the 10th of September 2025. The petition called for the changing of the route of the National Route, N2, Wild Coast Highway Route between the Mtetu and Umtavuna Bridge and to conduct a mid-term evaluation of the N2 Wild Coast Highway project.

Upon receiving this petition, the committee was briefed and met with the Amadiba Crisis Committee on the 16th of October 2025, on which the meeting the following issues were raised by the petitioners:

Firstly, that the residents and committee members in Amadiba believe that the development is important for the area and that improving road infrastructure is vital. Secondly, that the environmental and social impact recession assessment for the N2 Wild Coast Toll Highway, N2WCH, some 20 years ago are now outdated and considering new knowledge and experience of road building in the province of the Eastern Cape. Also, that the community's rights and voice have been overlooked on the consequence of displacement, loss of livelihood, and cultural and heritage degradation, which will be immense and irreparable if the alignment is not changed.

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After careful consideration of the issues raised by the petitioners, the committee appointed hon Nkopane, to whom we are very indebted and appreciative of her contribution in facilitating the engagement between SA National Roads Agency, Sanral, and the petitioners. And upon appointing the facilitator, she convened both parties on the 17th and the 24th of November, and the 3rd of December 2025, in Gqeberha and in East London in the province of the Eastern Cape.

And out of this engagement, both parties finally proposed what they deemed as a necessary way forward. And on the 17th of February 2026, the committee met to make observation, consider proposed way forward by the two parties and make final recommendation to close the petition.

And to this effect, hon members, the committee made the following recommendation in conclusion to the petition:

Firstly, that the South African Road Agency Limited must on quarterly basis update the committee on the project and all related projects, including Mtetu and Umtavuna Bridge for continuous monitoring. Secondly, that they have noted the great work Sanral is doing as far as intergovernmental

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relation is concerned. It encourages the Sanral to continue that until the end of the project because the IGR, is a cornerstone for success of the project of this nature.

Also, that the Sanral must ensure that all contractors and subcontractors are compliant to the environmental impact assessment, which is one of the critical concerns raised by the petitioners.

But lastly, we also recommend that the committee support the project and do not recommend any change to the route as required by the petitioners as Sanral and the Department of Transport have followed all the necessary requirements to ensure that this project is success. I hear in submit, Speaker. Thanks very much. [Applause.]

Declarations of Vote:

IsiZulu:

Mnu T T S KHUBEKA: Ngibingelele Somlomo, ngaphambi kokuba ngiqhubeke ngifisa ukuphakamisa lokhu. Le KwaZulu-Natali ngibingelele ubaba uMphephethwa, Phakela uMthakathi, Macingwane Ngizwe, kanye no Jacinta Ngobese Zuma. Siyanibingelela bafowethu siyiqembu leMK. [Ihlombe.]

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English:

We stand in full solidarity with the Amadiba Crisis Committee, that usisi Nonhle Mbuthuma is waging. She has waged a heroic, decade-long struggle to defend her people's land, her people's livelihoods, and dignity against the destructive, mining, and top-down neoliberal infrastructure model.

Her petition is a righteous cry from the dispossessed. And the people's mandate of MKP is the only vehicle that can deliver the justice that such people deserve.

The parliamentary committee process overseen by the DA-led initiative has revealed the limits of liberal opposition politics. It can make noise, but it cannot bring fundamental change because it operates within the same logic that caused the crisis.

In an attempt to answer Ms Nonhle Mbuthuma's prayer, we do not just want to move a road inland, we want to reclaim the entire process of infrastructure to serve the people of that area. The entire N2 project must be brought under, to revive the state construction company.

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South Africa as a state needs to have a proper construction company that will serve its people, that will employ its people, such that we stop handing over critical infrastructure projects that will bring a lot of money and a lot of jobs to the people of South Africa.

A community development trust must hold an unsalable equity stake in such a company. The project must provide permanent state employment for local people, and this will transform the communities that it will serve, from displaced victims into the owners and beneficiaries of a national asset.

This highway cannot be an isolated racetrack. It must be the spine of a regional system that includes a dedicated logistics corridor for local commerce in the centre of the Amadiba and formally integrated into a state-financed taxi industry that will serve as a feeder network connecting every village to opportunities.

A full and transparent evaluation of an inland road must be conducted, not on the basis of cost for Sanral, but on the basis of its potential as a true development corridor that will seek to benefit its people.

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My people, look towards the wild coast. There's a place there, the same place, Madiba. A great battle for the soul for that place has been waged. A brave daughter of the soil, a woman of peace who loves her land and who stood up and said, "not in our time". So, Ms Mbuthuma, for this, we applaud you.

She united five villages in an attempt to challenge this, Bill. Now she faces another giant R28 billion highway, but her fight, the Amadiba struggle is not a simple, complaint about a road, but it is God's own mirror. It is showing the nation that the two paths that lie before us. The cry from the Amadiba community is not just about the curve of the road ... Thank you Deputy Speaker. [Applause.] [Time expired.]

Siswati:

Mk C N MKHONTO: Sekelasomlomo, ngiyabingelela kuMkhuti
Wemasotja Emnotfo eNingizimu Afrika ...

English:

... commissars, fighters and the ground forces of the economic freedom fighters. The EFF rise in this House to reject the continued marginalization of the Amadiba Community in the implementation of the N2 Wild Coast Toll Highway Project.

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This report confirms that our people have been saying all along. Development is not the problem, exclusion is. The people of Amadiba are not anti-development, they are anti-imposition. They are against a model of development that is imposed on them without meaningful consent, without updated environmental considerations, and without respect for their livelihoods, culture, and land.

The portfolio committee itself acknowledges that there is an impasse, but instead of resolving it in favour of justice, it chooses convenience. Instead of deepening democracy, it protects bureaucracy. Instead of listening to the people, it sides with Sanral.

We are told that processes were followed, consultations held, reports compiled, approvals granted. But we must ask, what is the value of a process that does not produce justice? What is the consultation, if it does not influence outcomes, what is the participation if decisions are already predetermined?

The environmental assessment relied upon, are over two decades old. The cost of project has escalated drastically.

Communities are raising legitimate fears about displacement,

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loss of agricultural land, destruction of heritage sites, and the collapse of local economies. Yet, Sanral arrogantly insists that everything is in order.

Even more concerning is the refusal to consider a mid-term review, something that Parliament has done before on major infrastructure projects. This refusal exposes a dangerous attitude that once the state decides, the people must comply. We must be clear that development that displaced the poor, destroys livelihoods, and silences communities, not development. It is violence.

We therefore call for an immediate independent mid-term review of the project, including a reassessment of the route alignment. We demand updated environmental and socioeconomic studies. We insist on genuine community-led consultation processes that respect the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

The people of Amadiba are not obstacles to development. They are the rightful owners of the land. Their voices are not a nuisance. They are a constitutional imperative. The EFF stands firmly with the people. We will not allow institution to

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bulldoze communities in the name of progress. Thank you, Deputy Speaker. [Applause.] [Time expired.]

Mr A K NGOBESE: Hon Deputy Speaker, the IFP reaffirms its commitment to supporting urban and rural communities across the country and welcomes this report concerning the construction of the N2 Wild Coast Road. We acknowledge the Amadiba Crisis Committee's concerns regarding the escalation of project costs, potential loss of land, and community engagement processes.

Extensive projects such as this require a large scale of planning, research and construction phases. And the annulment or halt of these plans after more than 16 years of operation will constitute even greater fruitless, wasteful and irregular expenditure.

Lengthy public participation in community engagement processes, including liaising with the traditional authorities, reflect inclusive decision-making that has informed the construction and implementation over the years. This must continue to be the case until completion.

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Above all else, the rule of law and the protection of our Constitution democracy remain a core guiding principle. As such, accountability and transparency from the South African National Roads Agency, Sanral, the Auditor-General of South Africa bylaw must continue to be strictly adhered to in its detailed progress, reporting and performance audits, respectively.

In light of the issue raised and provided recommendations, the IFP accepts the report. I thank you.

Ms J A BASSON: Hon Deputy Speaker, the PA supports the petition from Amadiba community, requesting the National Assembly to investigate their concerns regarding the N2 Wild Coast Toll Highway, ...

Afrikaans:

... maar wat my as LP baie ontstel is dat gemeenskappe petisies Parlement toe moet bring, want partye op die grond luister nie na alle rasse nie. Kom ek gebruik twee duidelike voorbeelde, waar meer blanke gemeenskappe bly, is die paaie foutloos, maar die Kaap se mooi is net 'n verkiesingsfront. Kom ry saam met my op paaie soos Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain,

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Gugulethu, dis nou as jy die pad gaan kry. Herbou, hernu - net nog leë beloftes op 'n donker gemeenskap se lamppaal.

English:

Mpumalanga, home of the pothole, where money goes missing before it even reaches the public. In townships like Wesselton San City, children have to walk through raw sewer to get to school. It is 32 years after apartheid, yet our children have to travel a road our own leaders will not.

Afrikaans:

Die pad is lank, maar saam kan ons hom loop, tree vir tree, elke ras saam.

English:

All African voices, black, white, Indian and coloured Africans must be heard. We stand united with the community of Amadiba. A petition regarding a road should never lead to Parliament. We should listen on the ground. United we stand.

Afrikaans:

Die pad is baie lank.

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Afrikaans:

Mnr P A VAN STADEN: Adjunkspeaker, volgens Sanral se jaarverslag het die koste van hierdie projek vanaf R6,5 miljard in 2008 tot R23,5 miljard in 2024 verhoog. Die plaaslike gemeenskap is bekommerd dat die ontwikkeling onwettige sandmynbou of sandontginning sal bevorder, wat areas sonder die nodige omgewingsbeskerming, wat as natuurlike gebiede geklassifiseer is, skade sal aandoen.

English:

Forty-nine appeals were lodged with the Minister of Environmental Affairs and were dismissed. The matter proceeded to court and was heard in the Pretoria High Court in December 2018, and the application was dismissed on all grounds on 7 March 2019. The judge ruled that the N2 Wild Coast Toll Highway Project's public participation process, as conducted by Sanral, was likely the most comprehensive ever undertaken in South Africa up to that point, and that there was no indication at any stage by any party that the process was contravening customary law.

Leave to appeal was denied on 23 April 2019 and the portfolio committee does not propose a change to the planned route of

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this project and has already incurred substantial expenditure from the planning through the construction phases. The FF Plus supports the report as well as the committee's recommendation. Thank you.

Ms M P KOBE: Madam Deputy Speaker, this report regarding the petition from the Amadiba community makes one thing clear - while government may believe that it has followed due process, it has failed to carry the confidence of the very community that is most affected by this project. On the one hand, we acknowledge that the N2 Wild Coast Highway is a strategic infrastructure project with the potential to unlock economic growth, improve connectivity, and create opportunities in historically underdeveloped regions. South Africa does need this kind of infrastructure.

However, on the other hand, we cannot ignore the serious concern that has been raised by the Amadiba community. These include the risk of environmental degradation, the loss of livelihoods, the displacement of families and the perception that meaningful engagement has not taken place. When communities feel unheard, when concerns persist over years,

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when the costs escalate without clear explanation, it raises concerns about accountability and transparency.

As Action SA, we believe that development must be people centred. It must be built on trust, proper consultation and a willingness to adapt when legitimate concerns are raised. We therefore support stronger parliamentary oversight, full transparency on project costs, deviations and rigorous environmental compliance. I thank you very much.

Mr W M THRING: Hon Deputy Speaker, the ACDP notes the petition submitted by the Amadiba community requesting that the National Assembly investigates their concerns regarding the N2 Wild Coast Toll Highway project. This petition reflects long-standing grievances about consultation, environmental impact and community displacement. The ACDP has consistently emphasised that infrastructure development must balance national progress with the rights of local communities.

In this regard, I raise the deplorable state of disrepair of the Umzimkhulu River Bridge on 25 May 2025, and again on 29 May 2025, on the parliamentary precinct and in this House, which to date has caused untold economic hardship to the

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residents and businesses in the greater Ugu District Municipality. And so, the concerns of the residents of both the Ugu region and those surrounding the proposed N2 Wild Coast Highway must be taken seriously.

The ACDP notes the department's own report highlighting allegations of inadequate consultation, threats to communal land rights and risks to biodiversity in the Pondoland Centre of Endemism. We also note that the N2 expansion to the Wild Coast has the potential to bring untold benefits to the entire region, reducing travel time significantly between Port Edward and Port St Johns, Lusikisiki. But that said, poor communication with local people is unacceptable.

The department must engage meaningfully with affected communities, or it may point to a contention and trouble in the years to come. As kingdom builders, the ACDP calls for a timetable of engagement, accompanied by schedule report back to Parliament to ensure accountability. We accept this report. Thank you.

Xitsonga:

Tat S M GANA: Ndza khensa, Xandla xa Xipikara.

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English:

As Rise Mzansi, we participated in the consideration of the petition by the Amadiba crisis committee. We believe that the issues that they do raise are valid. Importantly, now that the construction of the N2 Wild Coast Road has already begun, we believe that there's a need for a review in terms of the audit of the project itself, more so, as it relates to the procurement and the expenditure of the project. The concerns around how the subcontracting was done in the project itself, it's a valid concern as I've said. But also, that ourselves as the Portfolio Committee of Transport need to place this particular project high up on our list to ensure that no further delays, but also in terms of the expenditure, it does not go overboard outside of the approved budget.

However, the other aspect that we did raise and it was considered and accepted by the committee is that, the Auditor-General needs to do a full audit of the project from its inception to look at how the contract, but also, how the subcontracting was done in this particular project. We do commend the work and the active citizenry that has been shown by the Amadiba crisis committee. Long may they continue to provide oversight on this project so that at the end of the

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day it does provide all the necessary benefits to the people of the area.

Xitsonga:

Ndza khensa swinene, Mutshamaxitulu.

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Chairperson ...

Sesotho:

... kgotso, Maafrika!

English:

Chairperson and hon members, this is not merely a dispute about the road, it is a constitutional question about participation, consent, land rights and development justice. For years, the Amadiba community has raised consistent concern that consultation has been inadequate, that their customary land rights have been overridden and that development has been imposed rather than negotiated. They are not rejecting development, they are rejecting a model of development that proceed without their meaningful consent and without credible evidence that it will improve their livelihoods.

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Section 25 of the constitutional framework protect the property rights and include customary land rights. Section 24 guarantee the right to environment that is not harmful to health of wellbeing. Section 195 require public administration to be transparent, participatory and accountable. The petition before us suggests that those principles may not have been fully honoured.

We must ask: Can infrastructure be called development if it's deep in disposition? Can the project be legitimate if every people whose land is being built feel unheard and marginalised? The Amadiba community is asserting a simple democratic principle, nothing about us without us. This report must, therefore, not be procedural closure of a petition, it must be a substantive commitment to ensure that consultation is genuine, that alternatives are properly considered, that every environmental social impact are independently assessed and that community voice are central to any final decision.

Xitsonga:

Khanimambo!

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Dr C H H HUNSINGER: Deputy Speaker, the N2 Wild Coast highway, a multibillion strategic infrastructure Sanral project in the Eastern Cape will reduce the distance between East London and Durban by 85 kilometres. In order to improve local connectivity and economic growth, it includes two mega bridges, surface upgrades and a 96 kilometres greenfield highway. The benefits of this highway cannot be disregarded or ignored.

At the same time, this petition highlights the considerable effects on the environment, society and culture it will have and community concerns must be taken seriously. The loss of rare plant species, arable land and livelihoods for local populations, as well as the disturbance of ancestral graves are some of the major problems that have been cited over many years. The Amadiba community petition focuses on inadequate consultation, claiming that Sanral neglected to adequately consult the community and disregarded their request for a different inland route.

Opposition protest and conflict, as well as obstructing development with ongoing legal disputes like the construction of the Mtentu Bridge have all been part of this. In the Khanyayo region, contractors were said to have damaged

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wetlands and destroyed rare Pondoland pincushion plants. Additionally, there were worries that the road's design may enable significant material mining in the Hobeni region and allegations of construction activities that have contaminated water in nearby villages.

In the meantime, Sanral is working to complete the project to increase regional connectivity and generate local employment. Key findings from a number of institutions highlight the Department of Transport and Sanral's methods of pointing to the difficult trade-off between developmental objectives and community and environmental hazards such as habitat loss, displacement and threats to cultural heritage. The University of Free State report of 2023 highlights the conflict between local grassroots environmental justice activities and national growth ambitions.

The 2023 SA report came to the conclusion that the project has considerable economic potential but faces opposition stemming from concerns about environmental deterioration and facilitation of mining which may cause people to relocate. The 2016 economic analysis report cautioned that the cost of the road, especially the bridges, was high. Despite being an

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essential piece of infrastructure, it suffers from the unsustainable predicaments of similar high speed long distance infrastructure projects.

Even while many of these conclusions are the subject of pertinent discussion and disagreement, what the average Pondoland resident sees is an 80 metre wide reserve rather than the simply 7,5 metre wide tar road which is significantly different than what was presented in an eye-catching PowerPoint. For safety concerns, a 410 km section of future highway will have 32,8 square km of run off buffer space alongside the road, not merely 2,8 square km. Citizens can immediately bring matters before Parliament through petitions.

In this sense, the Amadiba community petition was successful in highlighting particular pressing problems and frustrations with the community that would otherwise go unnoticed. The DA acknowledges and values this petition as an important foundation for making and planning a collaborative process, improving decision-making, raising transparency, reducing conflict, strengthening public ownership of choices, encouraging community empowerment and crucial elements of

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ensuring project success in every way, not just a completed road. The DA support this report.

Ms N S NKOPANE: Hon Speaker, the ANC would like to state and declare that we are aware that on 10 September 2025, a petition was referred to the committee for review and reporting. The petition demanded a mid-term assessment of the N2 Wild Coast Highway Project and a relocation of the N2 Wild Coast Highway between the Mtentu and Msikaba next to Mtamvuna Bridge. In accordance with Section 56(d) and 69(d) of the Republic of South Africa's 1996 Constitution, as well as the National Assembly Rules on Petitions, the Amadiba community filed a petition to express their disapproval of the highway proposed near the coast. The petitioners put out that they believed to be a workable substitute path that would advance Amadiba's overall growth.

The ANC is sensitive towards concerns raised by families and communities on economic impact and disruption of community livelihoods. However, it is a different case with this one of the Amadiba's petition because we have read the report as presented by SA National Roads Agency Limited, Sanral. We have looked at the report which has provided a focused and

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comprehensive report on the project from its start to the present. The present was 2025, including information on budget projections, expenditures and future budgeted amounts, including explanations for deviations from the original budget estimates until the project estimated completion date. Consultations and community engagements on the project from planning phase were detailed on which communities benefit from the project and current and future planned socioeconomic development projects linked to the Eastern Cape region impacted on the N2 World Coast Road project.

We only need now the latest from the beginning of 2026 up to this time, the period that now we are talking about this report. We need the latest report from Sanral. We must also understand that as government, this is one of the most significant infrastructure projects in the country as a whole and the province of the Eastern Cape. The villages along the wild coast and the province as a whole are participating and also we are looking at them to reap significant economic and social benefits from the project.

There is a room for better accessibility and transportation which are two of the project's primary benefits. The highway

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will shorten travel times between the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu as my colleague has even given the kilometres in numbers by more effectively connecting isolated rural areas.

IsiXhosa:

Kaloku kukhona ezinye iindlela ezincinci ezakhiweyo eziza kudibanisa kule inkulu yenziwayo. Loo nto ithetha ukuba la makhaya ebesokola engenazindlela eziya kuhola wendlela ayancedekala kuba uSanral ubakhela iindlela encidiswa nguMphathiswa weSebe lezoThutho.

English:

Research also shows that billions of rands will be invested in local economic development and selected businesses. This will lessen unemployment and poverty ...

IsiXhosa:

... ethwaxa la ndawo. Xa sithetha ...

English:

... about this large-scale road infrastructure project ...

IsiXhosa:

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... kufuneka ke siyiqonde ukuba abanye abantu baya kuzithatha njengabantu abangakhange benze ngohlobo ebebecinga ngalo. Siyakuqonda ukuba ukuba ngumsebenzi omkhulu kakhulu lo apho uninzi lwabantu luthatha inxaxheba. Abantu baseMbizana, Matatiele, Ntabankulu, Mzimvubu nabanye abasuka KwaZulu-Natal bayaxhamla kule projekhithi. Loo nto ithetha ukuba ...

English:

... it is a high priority infrastructure investment with a particular emphasis on energy, highways and rail, increasing water infrastructure, improving logistics and directive financial institution funds towards development through prescribed assets are some of the major pledges.

IsiXhosa:

Into esiyikhuthazayo ke kukuba abantu mabaye ezintlanganisweni babeyinxalenye yeenkqubo ze-IDP ezenziwa ngumasipala. Siyayixhasa le ngxelo siyiANC. [Kwaphela ixesha.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP OF LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move that the report be adopted. Thank you.

Question put.

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Agreed to. (uMkhonto weSizwe Party and United Africans Transformation dissenting).

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT ON
PETITION ON BEHALF OF RESIDENTS OF DAVEYTON, CALLING ON THE
ASSEMBLY TO INVESTIGATE VANDALISM AND RESTORATION OF A RAILWAY
NETWORK CONNECTING DAVEYTON TO SPRINGS, BENONI, AND
JOHANNESBURG - SUBMITTED BY Mr M J CUTHBERT, MEMBER OF
PARLIAMENT**

Mr S D SELAMOLELA: Hon Deputy Speaker, presiding officers, colleagues, colleagues, representatives of the people of South Africa, friends, compatriots and fellow South Africans, the Portfolio Committee on Transport received a petition by the hon Cuthbert on behalf of the people of Daveyton, calling on this Assembly to investigate the vandalism and the restoration of the rail network connecting Daveyton to Springs, Benoni and Johannesburg and Johannesburg in the province of Gauteng in the Republic of South Africa. The petition was referred for consideration by the committee and to the Portfolio on Police on 4 July 2025. The committees we instructed to confer in terms of Assembly Rule 169.

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Hon Deputy Speaker, the petition called for the following action to be taken: Firstly, for the committee to conduct an oversight to the station within three months to the scope of challenges facing the station and to determine what would be required to make it functional again. Consider allocating funding to restore the railway network and connect Daveyton to Johannesburg, Springs and Benoni within a specified timeframe and consider allocating funding to restoring the Daveyton train station, developing a long-term maintenance plan and putting in place measures to secure it from vandalism within a specified timeframe.

Hon Deputy Speaker, a joint meeting was held with the Portfolio Committee on Police on 16 September 2025 to receive a representation from the petitioners. The representation of the petitioners raised the following key points which were considered by the committee. Firstly, that the train station has been out of service since the year 2020 due to vandalism and infrastructure.

Secondly, the Passenger Rail Agency of SA, Prasa, previously stated that both the Benoni and Daveyton train stations would be restored in the 2022-23 financial year. However, that

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deadline had long passed. And also, that in response to the parliamentary question the hon the Minister of Transport in 2024 had committed to the petitioners were informed that the train station would be restored between April and September 2025 and however that had not commenced by the time of the petition.

That the corridor connecting Daveyton and to Spring and Johannesburg has been dysfunctional since 2014 due to old rolling stock, unreliable infrastructure, security issues, theft and vandalism. And that the corridor was expected to resume operation in October 2025. However, the work has been minimal in terms of the improvement.

Hon Deputy Speaker based when to this petition we take pride in informing this honourable august House that the committee conduct an oversight to the Daveyton corridor on 31 October 2025 as per the mandate of this august House and the following points were visited. Firstly, with regards to the Daveyton station; at Daveyton, the members received the briefing on the status of the station and the Group Chief Executive Officer, GCEO, of Prasa division together with the executive and regional heads presented aspects joined to this line and work

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progress and the recovery of the plan for the Daveyton station and other stations along the line. At the time the station did not show the sign of construction work having started and was mostly, strips of metal, copper, glasses and material that could be sold as scrap. Vandalism at the station was reported to have started in 2019 during the time when the security contracts were suspended and that the intense COVID-19 log down period exaggerated the situation.

Hon Deputy Speaker, we also visited the Apex Traction Substation and the site visit where the Prasa executives together with the GCEO also briefed the committee on the progress in as far as the station is concerned.

Lastly, we visited the Boksburg bridge and the briefing on the bridge focused on the progress made on the reconstruction of the bridge. Hon members, this is the bridge which exploded at the Boksburg bridge on 24 December 2022. The impact on the structure of the bridge and the rail line that runs over the bridge and a total of 55km rail services were affected or interrupted by the bridge reconstruction.

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With regard to theft and vandalism of rail infrastructure. The restoration project was planned to be executed in three phases which included demolition, detailed design compliance and construction.

Hon members, after all these visits and all the briefs presented, the committee met and reflected and made the following recommendations: Firstly, that a mechanism must be put in place by the legal department of the Passenger Rail Agency of SA to address contractor and subcontractor disputes that have arisen in as far as the bridge's reconstruction is concerned. That the Passenger Rail Agency of SA should submit a report to the committee on how ...

Lastly, hon Deputy Speaker, the committee made this recommendation and submit this report for consideration and adoption by this august House. Thanks very much. [Time expired.] [Applause.]

Declarations of Vote:

Mr T T S KHUBEKA: Speaker, ...

IsiZulu:

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... bafowethu, ngizwa engathi kukhona abangazwanga kahle ngesikhathi sibingelela oMphephethwa, oPhakel'umthakathi, siyabingelela futhi ngempela siyi-MKP, asidlali.

Phakel'umthakathi, bafowethu, sanibona lapho enikhona.

Macingwane, Yeyesa mfowethu, sawubona.

English:

Hon Deputy Speaker, Noam Chomsky once said and I have said it many times in the Portfolio Committee on Transport and in the Standing Committee of Public Accounts, Scopa, that a standard technique to privatise is to defund, make sure that things do not work, people get angry and then you hand over whatever entity you are working with to private capital. This is what is happening to our state-owned entities, SOEs under this current administration.

Hon Deputy Speaker the MK party stands with the people of Daveyton, Springs, Benoni and Johannesburg, who have already been abandoned by this neoliberal state. [Applause.]

We support the demand for the immediate restoration of their rail link. However, we reject the DA's trojan horse petition

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that seeks to exploit their suffering to advance a covert privatisation agenda. [Applause.]

The functioning of these trains will have to reduce the traffic congestion in the area and will offer our people much needed financial relief as it will drastically reduce the cost of transport.

Hon Deputy Speaker, it is important to note that a third of every South African salary goes towards transport. With the rising fuel costs, perpetuated by the Iran, United States of America, USA, Israel War, would worsen the situation drastically over the next few weeks.

The petitioner explicitly recommends that the Department of Transport explore a public private partnership. A model that will help to secure a proportion of the funding. The DA's ultimate goal here is not to strengthen the public rail system, but to create the balance sheet crises that justifies the handing over of our state assets to their friends in big business. A private public partnership corridor will extract profit from the poorest communities. It will lead to job loses for unionised Prasa workers and prioritise profitable roads

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while neglecting the deeper township roads. This is the betrayal of the people's mandate for a state-led public-owned transport system.

The DA's petition is silent on the fact that the very municipality in which Daveyton falls under which is Ekuruleni has been under the DA-led governance. The road leading to the Boksburg bridge remains in a poor state with the committee noting concerns that the municipality may lack the budget and the capacity to restore it. Where is the DA's outrage about their own failure to maintain municipal road infrastructure that the working-class citizens and residents of the area rely on daily?

The petition cries for a national funding, whilst the DA-run metro cannot fix the feeder roads. This selective outrage exposes the agenda and the shift in the burden of service delivery to the national fiscus while deflecting from their own governance failures.

A function Passenger Rail Agency of SA, Prasa, rail system is one that deliver and continue to deliver of 500 million passenger trips annually. This was last achieved under the

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former MK party Member of Parliament, MP, Lucky Montana. To this day, this remains Prasa's best yearly performance. [Applause.]

During the former Public Enterprises Minister's tenure, Prasa and other collapsed. This was in order to make way for the privatisation of the strategic state assets which was done with the DA. Thank you. [Time Expired.] [Applause.]

Dr S S THEMBEKWAYO: Deputy Speaker, we took part in this oversight visit and experienced for ourselves the devastation caused by years of neglect of the transport infrastructure in Etwatwa and Daveyton. Since 2020, the Daveyton railway station, once a critical transport and economic hub, has been reduced to rubble. What was once seen as a vital economic line has now become a symbol of destruction, reflecting the inability of the state to maintain and protect its own infrastructure.

The consequences of this failure are severe. Over 300 000 residents in Daveyton and Etwatwa have been left without access to affordable and reliable rail transport. This is not just an infrastructure failure. It is an economic

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injustice. These communities are now forced to rely on more expensive and often unsafe alternatives, placing additional financial strain on already vulnerable households.

In 2022, we were told the station would be restored. In 2024, new deadlines were given. In 2025, we were promised operations would resume. Today, there is nothing – no construction, no progress, only excuses of funding constraints.

The financial dimension of this matter further highlights the extent of the problem. How do we explain to the people that R79 million has already been spent, yet the station stands vandalised and unusable? How do we justify a R1,4 billion project that cannot even begin because the state cannot secure its own infrastructure? The EFF is clear: The poor are paying the price for the incompetence of the state. We cannot accept a situation where working-class communities are denied access to economic opportunities because trains do not run. Transport is not a luxury. It is a constitutional necessity linked to dignity, work, and survival.

The EFF therefore demands immediate intervention. The EFF therefore calls for urgent and decisive intervention. Firstly,

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there must be an immediate allocation of funds specifically targeted at restoring the Daveyton rail corridor, with clear conditions attached to ensure effective utilisation.

Secondly ... I thank you. [Time expired.]

Mr A K NGOBESE: Hon Deputy Speaker, the IFP affirms that reliable and affordable public transport is essential for dignity, economic participation, and equal access to opportunities. The continued vandalism and delayed restoration of the Daveyton rail network have left residents isolated and facing increased transport costs, further deepening inequality in our communities. This reflects persistent challenges in co-ordination, accountability, and service delivery.

Whilst the IFP supports the restoration of this critical rail link, we stress that progress must be matched by firm accountability, realistic timelines, strengthened oversight, and consistent monitoring. The community deserves transparency and assurance that commitments will not continue to be postponed. Furthermore, stronger security measures and effective co-ordination with law enforcement and local

authorities are essential to safeguard this critical infrastructure.

Sustainable and prioritised funding solutions, including exploring public-private partnerships and increased allocation through the national Budget, must be pursued to prevent further delays and ensure long-term viability. The IFP supports a practical and transparent approach to restoring all services for affected communities.

In consideration of the issues raised, the IFP therefore accepts the report. I thank you.

Mr E HENDRICKS: Hon Deputy Speaker and hon members, the PA rises to note the petition submitted by Mr M J Cuthbert on behalf of the residents of Daveyton, dated 17 February 2026. The petition calls for an investigation into the vandalism of rail infrastructure and the urgent restoration of the rail network connecting Daveyton to Springs and Benoni to Johannesburg. This petition reflects the reality many communities face: When rail collapses, opportunity collapses with it.

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For years, residents have been cut off from affordable transport, from work, from education, and from economic participation. The vandalism of this corridor is not just criminal behaviour; it is an attack on the livelihoods of working-class families. The committee's report recognises this and outlines the need for stronger security, better co-ordination between the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa, Prasa, the SA Police Service, and local authorities, and a clear plan to rehabilitate the line.

The PA supports this report. We support the call for accountability, for timelines, and for visible progress that communities can measure. Reliable rail is not a luxury. It is a lifeline for the poor and working families who cannot absorb rising transport costs. Restoring this corridor will ease congestion, revive the local economy, and restore dignity to commuters who have been forced into unsafe alternatives. As a committed partner in the Government of National Unity, the PA supports the committee's recommendations and emphasises that restoration must prioritise community safety, job creation for local residents, and transparent reporting back to Parliament.

Afrikaans:

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Ons mense in Daveyton is moeg vir beloftes wat nooit land nie. Hulle wil sien dat die treine weer loop, dat die stasies veilig is, en dat die regering eintlik opdaag vir die gewone werker.

English:

The PA therefore supports the adoption of this committee report. I thank you. [Time expired.]

Afrikaans:

Mnr P A VAN STADEN: Agb Adjunkspeaker, op 31 Oktober verlede jaar het die Portefeuljekomitee oor Vervoer die Daveyton-stasie besoek. Hierdie stasie, wat onder die beheer is van Prasa, is letterlik sedert 2020 deur vandaliste weggedra. Die skade wat tans aan hierdie stasie aangerig is, het tydens ons besoek aan die stasie op ongeveer R2 miljard te staan gekom. Dit is net om die stasie weer operasioneel te kry.

Wat ons daar aangetref het, was skrikwekkend. Die geboue is letterlik weggedra dat net die dop van die geboue nog staande is. Selfs die spoorlyne daar is weggedra. Dit is die gevolg van wet en orde wat in 'n land totaal en al ontbreek. Hierdie vandalisering en diefstal het 'n uiters negatiewe uitwerking

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op ongeveer 148 000 tot 192 000 pendelaars wat daagliks moet pendel om by die werk uit te kom. Die skade wat hierdie vandalisme aan Gauteng se ekonomie aanrig, is enorm. Daar was beloftes van Prasa om die stasie weer operasioneel te kry teen die 2022-2023 boekjaar, maar dit het nie gerealiseer nie.

English:

Further promises to restore this corridor, which has been dysfunctional since 2014, linking Daveyton to Springs and Benoni to Johannesburg also failed to materialise during the April to September period of the 2025 financial year. Work has yet to commence. Funding constraints have now delayed the restoration to the 2026-2027 financial year, if it proceeds at all. Prasa's funds remain insufficient to support the full recovery of the corridor.

Afrikaans:

Die VF Plus ondersteun die verslag, asook die aanbevelings van die komitee. Dankie, Adjunkspeaker.

English:

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Ms M P KOBE: Madam Deputy Speaker, this debate cannot be reduced to the technical considerations of a committee report. It must confront the lived reality of the people of Daveyton.

In October 2024, I, along with ActionSA Ekurhuleni regional leaders, conducted an oversight visit to the Daveyton train station. What we found was not a station under repair and not a system in recovery, but a hollowed-out shell stripped to its bricks, abandoned, and left to decay.

This was not unforeseen. Prasa and the Department of Transport had committed to restoring the station by October 2024. That deadline came and went without consequences – no accountability, no urgency, and no transparency. The committee chairperson also confirmed that we, as a portfolio committee, again returned in October 2025. Again, nothing was done. What we are dealing with here is not simply vandalism. It is institutional failure. When infrastructure is left unsecured, when timelines are missed without sanctions, and when communities are ignored, vandalism becomes inevitable. It is not a symptom; it is the cause of all of this.

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The cost of this failure is not abstract, Madam Deputy Speaker. Residents personally told me that they are now having to pay up to four times more to get to work – four times more. With the recent upsurge in fuel costs, they are most likely paying much more. In a country where many households are already choosing between transport and food, this is not inefficiency. It is economic exclusion. Rail is not a luxury. It is the backbone of affordable mobility and economic participation. When rail collapses, opportunities collapse with it.

So, whilst this House considers petitions and reports, the people of Daveyton are still waiting. They are waiting for trains that do not come and for a government that does not deliver. Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. [Time expired.]

Mr S N SWART: Madam Deputy Speaker, the ACDP is fully cognisant of the fact that it is much cheaper to travel by rail than other forms of travel, particularly given the dramatic increases in the price of fuel. It is further a well-known fact that households spend an inordinate amount of their hard-earned money on transportation. In view of that, the ACDP

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supports all efforts by the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa, Prasa, to restore their rail networks.

Therefore, it is in this case deeply concerning that a major corridor between Daveyton to Springs, Benoni and Johannesburg has not yet been restored. Let's just reflect on that. Since 2014, hundreds of thousands of commuters have not yet been able to use that corridor. Whilst Prasa is restoring a number of corridors, this is despicable that this corridor has still not been restored. Why is this the case? It is an ongoing and an ongoing vandalism that is taking place. Yes, whilst security has been added at great cost, surely, we should also encourage communities to start owning those rail networks and to start guarding them as well, given the fact of the importance that they are and they play in transportation.

We have studied the recommendations, and we support them in this petition. But remember, this was delivered in October last year - in October when this corridor was supposed to have been opened. Now, we see only a phased implementation. As the commuters stand, they believe it is a failed implementation. We would urge us as Parliament to increase our oversight and

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ensure that this rail network is restored. [Time expired.] We support the report. I thank you.

Xitsonga:

Tat S M GANA: Mutshamaxitulu ...

English:

... as Rise Mzansi we support the adoption of this report that consists of the petition that was brought by the hon Cuthbert. It is our belief that the restoration of the passenger railway line connecting Daveyton, Springs, Benoni and Johannesburg is not just a transport issue. It is a cost of living intervention. Our people are under immense pressure. The rising cost of living is squeezing households. Transport is one of the biggest burdens they carry every single day. Fuel prices continue to climb driven in part by the instability and the unnecessary war that we see in the Middle East. This has pushed commuting costs even higher. For many workers, getting to work is becoming unaffordable. From midnight tonight, fuel prices will be going up again. That is why restoring reliable and affordable rail services is essential.

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The Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa must urgently bring back all rail corridors to ease the burden and reconnect our communities to economic opportunity. The Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa must also communicate aggressively the corridors that have been recovered so that the people of South Africa can use their services.

Protecting railway infrastructure is not only Prasa's responsibility. We must all play a role in protecting and safeguarding our infrastructure. Rail lines are lifelines for the working class. Those who vandalise and destroy critical infrastructure are not just committing a crime, they are undermining the livelihoods of the people of this country. They must face the full might of the law. It is a shame that many that have vandalised this critical infrastructure are still roaming our streets very freely. We support the report.

Xitsonga:

Ndza khensa swinene, Mutshamaxitulu.

Mrs N L HLAZO-WEBSTER: Madam Deputy Speaker, today, in South Africa the poorer you are, the more you pay to survive. There are households in this country who are spending up to 50% of

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their income just to get to work. In the middle of a cost of living crisis this is not just unsustainable, it's actually unjust and it is a reflection of this reality. It is that this government has maintained a system of multiple South Africa. It is a system where work remains far from black and coloured communities. It is a system where apartheid spatial planning has not been undone and has in fact been sustained. That is the first failure, the original sin, if you will. When people have to leave home before sunrise to be able to get to work and return after dark when they have to catch multiple taxis spending their little they earn just to be able to move, we are not just failing on transport. What we are failing on is dignity. What we are failing on is family life and we are ultimately failing on economic inclusion. It does not end there, though.

This report has surfaced or exposed the second failure, which is a collapse of a transport system. In this case, it is the railway system, the absence of a safe, reliable and integrated public transport network. To a community like Daveyton in asking for the restoration of their railway system, it is not asking for luxury. They are asking for access to jobs, access to opportunity and access to life because unfortunately this

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government has not enabled for that to be happening where they live. Instead of that they are met with vandalised infrastructure, missed deadlines and empty promises. You cannot maintain spatial injustice and then on top of that you fail on transport. This is not how you build South Africa, it is how you maintain many. This is why we support the committee's recommendations for urgent and regular progress reports, for credible timelines and for real accountability. Until we fix transport, we cannot fix inequality. [Time expired.] Thank you.

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: Hon House Chairperson, in the name of the Almighty, the most gracious and the most merciful, Al-Jamah rises to support the consideration of this report on the petition brought forward on behalf of the residents of Daveyton. This is not just a matter of infrastructure. It is a matter of dignity, economic survival and restoring hope to communities who depend on reliable public transport. The railway network connecting Daveyton to Springs, Benoni and Johannesburg was once a lifeline. It enabled workers to reach their places of employment, learners to access education and families to remain connected to opportunities. Today, that same network stands vandalised, neglected and largely

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unusable. The consequences are severely increased – transport costs, longer commuting hours, heightened exposure to crime and unsafe travel conditions.

Vandalism of public infrastructure is not merely an act of destruction. It is an attack on the poor. It disproportionately affects those who have no alternative means of transport. When rail services collapse, it is the working class that pays the price. We must therefore move beyond acknowledging the problem and act decisively. Firstly, there must be a thorough investigation into the causes of vandalism, whether it be organised criminal networks, lack of security or systematic failures in oversight. Secondly, accountability must follow. Those entrusted with safeguarding this infrastructure must answer for its deterioration. Thirdly and most importantly, we must prioritise the restoration of this railway line. This includes not only rebuilding physical infrastructure, but ensuring that sustainable security measures are in place to protect it going forward.

Restoration... [Time expired.] "Malibongwe!" [Let it be praised!]

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Dr L W MAHLATSI: Chairperson ...

Sesotho:

... kgotso, Maafrica.

English:

In reflecting of this consideration report, a broader policy concern must be acknowledged. The sustained deterioration of commuter rail infrastructure, such as the corridor linking Daveyton to Springs, Benoni and Johannesburg, does not occur in isolation from policy environment within which the public services are managed.

When essential public infrastructure is allowed to decline through weak protection, underinvestment and limited accountability, the outcome is predictable. The public loses confidence in the state capacity and the space open for argument that only private provision can restore the efficiency.

This pattern reflects the broader neoliberal policy orientation in which the state progressively retreats from

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direct service provision while market actors are positioned as a primary solution.

The consequences, however, are that the working-class commuters who depend on affordable, reliable rail are left with more expensive transport alternatives, while strategic public assets lose their developmental function. This Assembly must therefore treat this petition not only as a matter of vandalism and restoration, but as a question of government philosophy.

What is the role of the state in safeguarding and maintaining infrastructure that underpins the economic inclusion? How do we prevent deterioration from becoming the factor argument for privatisation by default?

Oversight over Passenger Rail Agency South Africa and the Department of Transport must include scrutiny of maintenance regime, security strategy, budget allocation, and long-term commitment to commuter rail as a public good. If rail collapses, the poorest pay more to travel further and if rail is restored, opportunities move closer.

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Xitsonga:

Khanimambo!

Dr C H H HUNSINGER: Chairperson, the DA sees this petition on behalf of the Daveyton residents as an outcry for action, an attempt to seek intervention for an injustice on a public matter, an investigation into the cause, and assistance in re-establishing the railway connection between Daveyton Springs, Benoni, and Johannesburg.

The outcry against the impact of the increased expense of transportation in the absence of a railway is well-founded.

Residents in the lowest scale would typically spend 7,5% of their monthly income on rail transportation to work. This rises to 37% in the absence of Metrorail, which results in 30% less disposable income for the typical Daveyton household, 30% less for work, school, wardrobe, table, lunchbox, saving money, and having some backup.

Given that Daveyton and Johannesburg is around 25km apart, a taxi ride there and back would cost roughly R70 a day. The cost of a return trip by rail would only be R24 if the rails

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were there. That's an extra R46 per day, per commuter. This would have had huge effect on every home as well as the potential local economy. Instead of being distributed through the larger economic community, an estimated R414 million is now channelled to a single mode of transportation.

While 35 of Passenger Rail Agency South Africa, Prasa's, 40 planned priority corridors have been effectively restored, this does not include the Daveyton-Johannesburg lines. Rehabilitation and rehabilitating the infrastructure has cost more than R21 billion. However, not a cent has been spent on the lines from Daveyton to Johannesburg.

As a result of rehabilitation of infrastructure, train volumes have significantly increased. By late 2025, 77 million passenger journeys have been recorded on the repaired routes, yet, the Daveyton community has been left behind.

In a presentation to the Transport Portfolio Committee at the time, Prasa stated that the collapse of the Plantation bridge in Boksburg, which was destroyed by an exploding tanker on Christmas Eve 2022, was the primary cause of the corridor's restoration delay, along with theft and vandalism.

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The reconstruction of the Boksburg bridge is in its final phase, with pallets and tracks to be installed to reconnect the railway across the bridge. However, at present, funds are insufficient to fund the full corridor recovery.

Last month, 40 months after the terrible event, a site visit confirmed that the project has been put on hold. The contractor has left, the site office has been vandalised, and the City of Ekurhuleni is yet to explain the increasing delays in restoring this portion of infrastructure.

In addition to the associated railway bridge and the municipal road underpass, there is a lack of funding. It is anticipated that the corridor would require more than R2 billion to fully recover. Between 2021 and 2026, fixing vandalised train stations could cost anything from R9 million to R21 million.

Due to Prasa's continued careless financial management, more than 570 Daveyton stations could have been rebuilt with a more than R12 billion in reckless spending over the past five years. Communities like Daveyton are still isolated due to ongoing management and governance shortcomings, and now also intergovernmental coordination, a setback in the process of

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re-establishing communal relationships, not just by delivering for them, but also by providing thousands of individuals with economic benefits, possibilities for a better lifestyle, freedom and opportunities of choice and mobility.

The DA supports this report.

Mr C N MALEMATJA: House Chairperson, hon members, South Africans ...

Sepedi:

... badudi ka bophara ...

English:

The ANC declares that it is aware of the petition from M.J. Cuthbert on the matter of residents of Daveyton, where there was a call to the Assembly to investigate vandalism and restoration of a railway network connecting Daveyton to Springs, Benoni and Johannesburg, which was dated 17 February 2026.

As the ANC leading the Government of National Unity, we understand that there was a matter of the train station that

has remained closed since 2020 because of damage to infrastructure caused by vandalism. There was no alternative mode of public transport except for minibus taxis in the impacted region. The inactive railway hinders residents of Daveyton and Etwatwa from accessing affordable transport.

The department needs to help Prasa evaluate its funding and budget shortfall for the restoration of this line and collaborate on the finding optimal approach to secure necessary additional funding, whether by engaging private investment for this particular project, acquiring further funding from the National Treasury or exploring other investment avenues.

Prasa needs to be practical with the timeline associated with this project to avoid setting unrealistic expectations for the community and having to keep delaying the restoration of the rail corridor. The ANC's 2024 manifesto prioritises rehabilitation and upgrading South Africa's railway system through establishing rail as a foundation of public transport in this regard as key components to effective, efficient logistic framework.

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The main commitments that we adhere to are reinstating passenger routes, expediting freight rail change to enhance industrial growth and funding the production of new locally made train. We are committed to infrastructure upgrading through allocating funds for existing socio-economic infrastructure to address limitations in transportation and logistics.

We are committed to passenger rail revitalisation with the recent government operation and declaration through emphasising the restoration of outstanding passenger rail corridors, aiming to deliver safe, dependable and affordable transport via Prasa.

On freight and economic development, the ANC seeks to reform all rail logistics, transferring freight from road to rail and employing special appropriate funds to enhance transportation infrastructure. As the ANC, we confirm on the Daveyton ... [Inaudible.] ... having continuous legal monitoring and evaluation on Prasa and the need to implement mechanism to resolve dispute between contract and the subcontract.

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We must have an idea on the advancements in the legal and insuring claim on recouping expenses from the company that owned the tanker truck responsible for the damage following the explosion as the truck ignored the high restrictions that were clearly marked at the time of the incident.

Due to property damage, the Daveyton station resembles a building site that has been partially dismantled and has no indication of fresh reconstruction. The majority of the metal, copper, glass and other things that could be sold as scrap or used to build makeshift houses were removed from the station. Subterranean pipes were evacuated, overhead electric pipes were removed, parts of the stairs were removed, and the roof was taken down. Such matters need investigations, accountability and transparency.

The mistake that we must never do as a House is to allow people to rely on the artificial intelligence, AI to come and grant, to understand at the expense of the people of Daveyton. People of Daveyton, understand what the cause was and therefore, we as the ANC, the caring government, we are in line in ensuring that their life is back to normal. We support this report.

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Thank you.

THE CHIEF WHIP OF LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Chairperson, I move that the report be adopted.

Question put.

Motion agreed to (Mkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Report accordingly adopted.

**DEBATE ON FREEDOM DAY: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FRUITS OF FREEDOM -
CELEBRATING THIRTY-TWO YEARS OF DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP**

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES: Madam Speaker, hon members, fellow South Africans, we are the people of South Africa. These are not ceremonial words. They are revolutionary declarations of sovereignty. They find expression both in the Freedom Charter and in the Constitution of the Republic of our country. A Constitution that enjoins us to build a national democratic society founded purely on humanity. Together, these foundational texts define the essence of our democracy, a

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society rooted in equality, dignity and freedom. The Freedom Charter, adopted by the people for the people, declared with clarity that South Africa belongs to all of us. And the Constitution carries the revolutionary principle into the legal force.

It does not simply describe a state. It defines a transformative project of nation building. It instructs every generation of leadership that government derives authority only from the will of the people and that the injustices of the past must be addressed deliberately and systematically.

It further compels us to pledge ourselves to strive together, sparing neither strength nor courage until democratic changes set out have been won. This Constitution gives us the right to a home with dignity. It gives us the right to walk to work without stepping over sewage. It gives us the right to live in Gugulethu, Khayelitsha or Langa and know that your life matters as much as life in Camps Bay.

The ANC has always understood that the democratic breakthrough of 1994 was not the end of struggle, it was the opening of a

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new terrain of struggle. The ANC strategy and text document is clear.

The National Democratic Revolution is a process of transference of power to the people in all its dimensions, political, economic, social and ideological power. Therefore, transformation is not an option. It is a historical necessity anchored in the Freedom Charter and constitutional order. To abandon transformation is to abandon the revolution itself.

There persists a misleading and a historical claim that the ANC sold out during the negotiation settlement. This narrative collapses under historical reality. The truth is that the negotiated transition reflected the balance of forces at the time. Neither the apartheid regime nor the liberation movement had achieved a decisive military victory. Yet the ANC secured the following: Universal suffrage, a democratic constitutional order, a unitary South African state founded on equality. This was not surrender, it was a strategic advance of the liberation struggle through constitutional means.

The Constitution is not neutral about inequality. It is a transformative document that intervenes, even racially, to

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dismantle apartheid legacies, especially to correct geographic injustice, economically to redistribute opportunity, socially to restore human dignity. It is the Constitution that speaks to both the vanquished and the former beneficiaries of the privilege. To oppress, it guarantees redress. To all citizens, it guarantees inclusion. But it makes one demand of the Republic. Transformation is non-negotiable.

There is therefore a fundamental distinction between good governance and administration. Governance is administration. Transformation is justice in motion. The two are not the same. Governance without transformation, as we have seen in some quarters of the country, becomes the efficient management of inequality. We must ground this debate in material reality.

Since 1994, the ANC-led government has achieved significant progress. Expansion of electricity to more than 80% of all households. A broad access to water and sanitation. Over 4 million housing opportunities were delivered. Expansion of education access, including no fees schools. A social protection system reaching over 18 million citizens. These are not mere statistics. They are concrete expressions of liberation in practice. Each house built represents a rupture

with apartheid's spatial planning. Its grant issued represents placation and peacemaking in the stress of those who are poor. Its school opened represents an investment against generational poverty. This is the advancing logic of the National Democratic Revolution in practice.

The ANC-led government has deployed key instruments to advance inclusive development. BBBEE, Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act is one of those. The Employment Equity Act is one of those.

A progressive tax and social protection system. These instruments, amongst others, are not technical reforms. They are tools of structural transformation aimed at correcting historical dispossession. They give practical meaning to the Freedom Charter's demand that the people shall share in the country's wealth. We must acknowledge the ideological context in our society. There are organisations which organise along racial lines to advance narratives that seek to normalise separation and claims and parallel developments. But the Constitution does not allow fragmentation of the democratic project. Let us be clear, transformation is not an antiwhite

project. Transformation is antiracism and antisexism, amongst others.

Transformation is justice in practice. The Constitution does not call for separation. It calls for shared belonging grounded on equality. However, belonging must be material, not symbolic. You cannot claim nonracialism while defending unequal ownership patents, while defending persistent partial apartheid, while defending structural exclusion from economic opportunity. This is not nonracialism. It is the preservation of historical privilege under constitutional democracy with the abuse of the word governance.

As we move into a new era of advancing technologies, digital transformation is no longer a luxury but an urgent intervention we can make to continue providing the people of South Africa with a better life. The ANC in its 55th National Conference recognised that the ICT's technological capability could be used for the end of the escorts sectors of economy, including agriculture, energy, education, health and financial services amongst others.

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Right now, the digital economy of South Africa contributes about 19% to the GDP and its expected growth in the coming years. It is for this reason that some amongst are preoccupied with over 100 race-based law fallacy. This economy would give us the opportunity to level the playing field, to right the wrongs of the past, to overcome unemployment, inequality and poverty. Therefore, as we move into this digitally transformed nation, we need to create and enforce policies and regulations that do not leave us at the mercy of bigger players. We must be seized with creating a digitally sovereign nation, one that does not wholly depend on the private sector. We must leverage technological innovation and digital transformation as strategic driver for social economic growth as the Constitution calls us to.

We must also be frank; corruption undermines the democratic project. It steals from the poor, weakens state's capacity, erodes public trust, distorts transformation. The ANC has committed itself to strengthening accountability and rebuilding ethnic governance.

Freedom Day is not a ceremonial commemoration; it is renewal of revolutionary commitment. The Freedom Charter and the

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Constitution converge on one central truth. South Africa must be a nonracial, nonsexist, democratic society.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, your time has now expired.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES: The ANC remains committed to this historic mission. We are not managing a post-apartheid society; we are transforming into a society and therefore we reaccept it. Thank you.

Ms N BUTHELEZI: Hon Chairperson, hon members, today, we are debating about freedom. But it is unfortunate that 32 years later, we are told to celebrate. To celebrate what exactly? Four million South Africans, especially the youth, freedom has become a story we are told, not a life we live. We are told you are free. But you are a young person sitting at home with a qualification, and having no job does not feel free. A mother who cannot feed her children does not feel free. A community that lives in fear of crime does not feel free. So again, I ask, what exactly are we celebrating? Freedom is not a slogan, freedom is not a speech, freedom must be real. It

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must mean opportunity, it must mean dignity, it must mean progress, but today, 32 years later, freedom for many South Africans looks like unemployment, poverty, and broken promises.

There is something deeply cruel about asking people to celebrate what they have not experienced. There is something dishonest about telling a generation that they are free while they remain locked out of opportunities. What we have in South Africa today is not the fullness of freedom; it is the shadow of it. A shadow that looks good in speeches, a shadow that sounds powerful on podiums, but a shadow that disappears the moment you step into the reality of our people. We stand here and speak of freedom while graduates sit at home year after year, watching their dreams expire quietly. We speak of dignity while families go to bed hungry in a country rich with resources. We speak of safety while mothers pray every night that their children return home alive. There is no freedom. This is abandonment. And the painful truth is this, the party that once carried the hopes of millions has now become the manager of the disappointment. The ANC did not inherit a broken country and failed to fix it. They inherited hope, and then they broke it ... [Applause.] ... Yes, we honour those

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who fought. We honour the blood that was shed. We honour the names that history remembers and the many it has forgotten. But let us be clear, those heroes did not fight for this version of South Africa. They did not fight so that freedom would become a slogan and used to hide failure. They did not fight so that the children of this country would inherit struggle instead of opportunities. They did not fight so that 32 years later, we will still be explaining why things are not working.

The ANC has had 32 years, 32 years to build, 32 years to fix, 32 years to deliver. And yet today, we ask to lower our expectations, to be patient, and understand. To understand what exactly? Understand why a young person cannot go to school. Understand why a young person cannot find work. Understand why poverty still defines millions of lives. Understand why inequality continues to grow, and why leaders grow more comfortably in the blue light cars. No, South Africans understand very well. They understand that they have been failed.

Now we are introduced to what is called the Government of National Unity, GNU. We are told this is a new chapter, a

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fresh start, a solution. But let us not insult the intelligence of our people. You cannot repackage failure and call it unity. You cannot take the same problems, the same leadership, and the same lack of accountability, and expect a different outcome. It cannot be. The GNU is not a bold new vision. It is a safety net for a collapsing authority. It is power clinging to itself. It is leaders choosing each other repeatedly over other people. And while they negotiate positions, other people negotiate survival. While they share Ministries, our people share unemployment. While they speak of stability, our communities live with instability every single day.

The greatest betrayal is not freedom that has been fully realized. The greatest betrayal is what we are told to accept. It is enough. We are told to celebrate partial freedom. They applaud incomplete injustice. To be grateful for a system that still excludes the majority, that is not just failure, it is an insult, because freedom without economic power is an illusion. Freedom without opportunity is a performance. Freedom without dignity is empty ... [Applause.] ... A young person today does everything right. They study, they sacrifice, they believe, and then they wait. They wait for

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interviews that never come. They wait for opportunities that never arrive. They wait for a government that no longer sees them. And slowly, that belief turns into frustration. The frustration turns into anger, and that anger turns into silence, a dangerous silence. Because it is the silence of a generation that has stopped expecting anything from its leaders, because they are failures. We have leaders who are failing the community.

There is no dignity in telling people to celebrate what they cannot feel. There is no justice in asking the poor to be patient while the powerful remain comfortable. There is no honour in repeating the language of freedom while ignoring its absence. Thirty-two years later, the question is no longer whether we are politically free. The question is whether that freedom has meaning. And for millions, it does not. So, let us stop pretending. Let us stop performing. Until a young person can find work, until a family can live with dignity, until safety is not a luxury, until opportunity is not reserved for a few, we cannot stand here and pretend we are fully free. So, we will not celebrate illusions. We will not applaud failure. We will not be silenced by history. We will speak, and we will demand. And we will continue to fight for the freedom that was

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promised but never delivered. Because 32 years later, for far too many South Africans, freedom is still not real. Thank you, Chairperson ... [Applause.]

Mr I CAMERON: House Chair, the theme before the House today is, Social and economic fruits of freedom. It is a theme that invites celebration. But I want to ask the question whether freedom is real for every South African in the country. Just a month ago, on 9 April, a 50-year-old lady in Delft was shot and killed because she could not pay extortion money as she sold chicken feet to stay alive – not luxury goods, just chicken feet. She was a small trader trying to survive. One of those South Africans who wakes up early, works long hours, counts every rand and tries to turn a small daily income into food, electricity, transport and dignity. According to reports, she was killed again because of yet another extortion attack. Two unknown suspects entered her home, shot her and fled with cash and cell phones. She was declared dead at the scene. Neighbours said she had recently been approached by extortionists, but she told them that she was not earning enough to pay them. Chair, let that sink in. She was not earning enough to pay criminals. She was not refusing from a position of comfort. She was just purely poor. She was just

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trying to survive. And because she could not satisfy the criminal tax imposed on her, she was shot dead in her own home.

What does democratic citizenship mean when a small trader must choose between feeding herself and paying a gang? What are the fruits of freedom when the poorest among us are taxed by criminals before they can even feed their families? For many South Africans, this is what freedom looks like. The community is told to pay or we kill. And it is not happening in Delft alone. It is happening across the country. Businesses receive threats, pay or be shot at, burned or shut down. That is an open criminal rule. It is gangsters saying we control who may trade, who may work, who may open and who may or must live in fear. In too many communities citizens vote for a democratic state, but live under the daily authority of criminal networks. The state is present on paper, but gangs are present on the streets.

Among the top 35 highest contact crime police precincts in the country, the average murder detection rate is hardly 7%. That means that only about seven out of every 100 murder cases are actually successfully detected. Put differently, hardly one

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out of 14 murders were successfully detected by the SA Police Service, SAPS, at those specific stations in the past financial year. If this is the case and they are not detected, there's no suspect, no one to prosecute and thus no one to convict. This is precisely why that elderly lady in Delft should matter to this debate because her family now enters a system where the odds of successful detection are already painfully low, if not zero, as in many of our highest crime areas in the country. And she is not alone.

We must remember people like Lisanda Sondlo, a 22-year-old mother, also from Delft, who was walking home at the end of 2025 with her seven-year-old brother when she had just bought food. She was shot dead again because she could not pay extortion money. Again, with the same pattern – ordinary people, small income, criminal demands, a woman killed, a child traumatised and a community left in fear. It is almost as though we have accepted it as the norm, which it could never be.

Freedom is not a right to vote. Freedom is a right to walk home. Freedom is a right to sell food. Freedom is the right to open a shop. Freedom is not the right to pay protection money

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to a gang. Freedom is the right to believe that when your mother, daughter or sister is murdered, the state will find the killer and build a case that actually stands in court. That is why we need intelligence-led policing and prosecution-driven investigations. It is why we need functioning detectives, forensic support, crime intelligence, firearm tracing, witness protection and clean leadership. That is why capable local and provincial law enforcement must be used as force multipliers within the framework of the law. Where there is proven competence, there must be corresponding power. If a capable province or metro has the ability to investigate, disrupt and dismantle these criminal networks, they must be empowered to do so because denying power where capacity exists does not preserve order, it prolongs failure.

The elderly woman in Delft should still be alive. Lisanda Sondlo should still be alive. Their families should not have to become examples in a parliamentary speech. But if we are serious about freedom, then we must tell their stories.

Freedom is not real while small traders are murdered for not paying gangs. Freedom is not real while families are extorted into silence. Freedom is not real while murder detection is so low that barely one out of every 14 murders at our highest

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crime stations are actually detected. Thirty-two years into democracy this is the test. Can the state protect the poor? Can the state protect women? Can the state protect small traders? Can the state protect communities where gangs have become more visible than government? Freedom must be more than just words spoken in Parliament. It must be something a woman can feel when she opens her stall in the morning. That is the freedom we still owe to too many South Africans. I thank you.

Mr S LONZI: Hon Chairperson, when the Khoi fought against Dutch colonial settlement between 1659 and 1660 in the First Khoikhoi-Dutch War, what has come to be called the Cape Peninsula War, the freedom they had in mind was rooted in land and sovereignty. When Makhanda ka Nxele led the 1819 campaign during the Fifth Frontier War, their struggle was for land and self-determination; when King Hintsa ka Khawuta was killed during the Sixth Frontier War, the demands were land, dignity, African sovereignty and control over ancestral territories; when King Moshoeshoe 1 led the Basotho people to victory against British forces during the Battle of Berea, the vision was land and independence.

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When Bambatha led the Bambatha Rebellion in 1906, it was a fight for land and rejecting colonial taxation systems that sought to control African life and labour; when King Sekhukhune 1 resisted during Sekhukhune Wars in 1876 and 1879, it was a struggle for land, labour and sovereignty against both Boer and British imperialist expansion and when King Makhado of Singo dynasty, also known as the Lion of the North, resisted war encroachment in the Northern Transvaal, the resistance was about land and sovereignty. We can even mention Witbooi, the chief of IKhowsin people in what today is called Namibia, he too led resistance in the Nama-German Wars, resisting colonial occupation and land dispossession.

So, the questions we must ask ourselves are the following: Did Walter Sisulu organise underground resistance so that our people would die waiting for the Reconstruction and Development Programme, RDP, houses? Did Nelson Mandela enjoy imprisonment, so that clinics in our townships would remain under resourced and hospitals overwhelmed? Did Chris Hani sacrifice his life, so that graduates in South Africa would hold their qualifications without opportunity because there are no jobs? Did Albertina Sisulu carry communities through hardship so that Khayelitsha, Alexandra, Seshego and Umlazi

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would still be defined by informal settlements and lack of basic needs decades after liberation?

Did Winnie Mandela Suffer at the hands of brutal apartheid security forces so that basic services like water and electricity would remain distant to our people? Did Lillian Ngoyi led to the 1956 Women's March against past laws for the economy and wealth of our country to be controlled by the same minority she fought against? When Oliver Tambo carried out the struggle to exile in Lusaka, Dar es Saalam and Maputo, he did not only find refuge, but solidarity. This is precisely because the struggle of South Africa was never isolated from the continent.

Today, the real and genuine frustrations of our people are being redirected; redirected against those who own the land; redirected against those who control the economy, who control the businesses and the factories that must employ people. Today, those who shout the loudest about immigration, especially on the eve of elections, do so not to solve the fundamental problems, but to escape the real questions. Who owns the land in South Africa; who controls the mineral wealth in South Africa and who benefits from this economy?

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While our people are being made to fight each other, the structure of inequality remains unchanged, and it remains untouched. Unemployment in South Africa is structural. It is because of the economy that has never transformed. So, if we allow the opportunists, the regionalists, the hustlers, the tribalists, and the scammers, to reduce this history to fear of one another, we would be betraying this history. Our struggle was never against people; our struggle has always and will always be against systems of dispossession.

It was meant to return the land to the people; it was meant to ensure that the wealth beneath our sole benefits the majority; it was meant to restore dignity, not in speeches and slogans, but in the daily lives of our people. Real freedom must confront unemployment; real freedom must confront the ownership patterns of land in South Africa, and real freedom must confront and unlock the mineral wealth to benefit all. This is why we are inviting all young people in South Africa to register to vote, so that, come 4 November 2026, we are going to be able to attain real freedom in South Africa because the political settlement that the ANC gave us in 1994, has not been able to translate into real changes in the ordinary lived experiences of our people.

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So, political freedom without economic freedom is meaningless. If the future, the youth of this country, is serious about getting jobs; if they are serious about getting services in our Technical and Vocational Education and Training, Tvet, colleges, and our universities; if they are serious about getting schools in the most distant and rural areas, we are calling on all of you. If you are a young person and you are serious about the future of this country, register to vote, so that we can fight for real freedom on 4 November, which is economic freedom. Thank you very much, Chair.

The MINISTER OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS: Hon Chairperson, indeed, South Africa is free. Thirty years ago, the South Africans collectively embraced a new identity as a nation of equals. When the country held its first nonracial elections in 1994, we marked the dawn of democracy. It was a heartwarming victory. Today, we honour many sacrifices that were made by committing ourselves to strengthening democratic principles and constitutional rights. With this in mind, we must ask ourselves a very difficult question: Have the social and economic fruits of freedom reached all our people? Unfortunately, the answer to this question is rooted in the harsh and sobering reality.

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Unemployment, inequality, and failing service delivery continue to deny many of the full benefits of democratic citizenship.

Democracy and freedom are not an event; they are a process anchored in human rights and geared towards change and transformation. True freedom is the presence of opportunity, for a mother to feed her children; for a graduate to find a job, and for every citizen to live in safety. We need to move with speed, for the fruits of freedom to be enjoyed fully. The IFP has long believed that our history must inform our vision for the future. Freedom Day not only offers the chance to reflect on the role on the long road to democracy but pushes us to reflect on how we can advance political equality for current and future South Africans.

Thirty-two years later, our democratic project has not sufficiently yielded to the desired results of output for our people, and frustration have taken route. At the heart of this frustration is a system that fails South Africans. The crisis of illegal migration has reached a dangerous tipping point that threatens our social order and demands urgent action. It is true that our freedom is an outcome of African continent

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solidarity. Any form of xenophobia and violence against undocumented foreign nationals must be condemned. We must act humanly and prioritise the rule of law, secure our borders by enforcing our immigration laws without apology.

Accordingly, the IFP is advancing legislative efforts to streamline and accelerate the deportation process for undocumented foreign nationals. It seeks to remove bureaucratic obstacles, improve efficiency, and ensure that limited state resources are directed accordingly. We know that democracy extends beyond voting practice. When South Africa was declared a democratic state, our government made a commitment to prioritise the welfare of its citizens. It is elementary that the government has a duty to its own citizens. The year 1994 was about moving black, oppressed South Africans from exclusion to inclusion, particularly for their active and dignified participation in the economy.

Freedom Day symbolises our strength as a nation. The 1994 breakthrough ensured equal citizenship and the right to vote, must be seen beyond the politics and understood as a gateway through which all other rights are realised, claimed, and protected. The political legitimacy of 1994 hinges on the

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speedy realisation of social and economic justice for all South Africans. The IFP remains committed to remembering our past, prioritising the present, and working towards equitable future for all South Africans. I thank you.

Mr A !Q SAULS: Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. [An unofficial language spoken.] Whom the Son has set free is free indeed, not our world-class Constitution or our AI-generated attempt at a Bill. No, whom the Son Jesus Christ has set free is free indeed.

Sarafina screamed, freedom is coming tomorrow! Did tomorrow mean 430 years? Based on our daily reality, I have to ask truthfully, are we free or are we dom [stupid]? How can the Khwe and the San in South Africa, not just in Namibia, say that we are free, when until February this year, the systems of Home Affairs still could not print our traditional Bushmen names? The PA, however, changed the game. Today, I hold in my hand an identity document, ID, with my original #Khomani San name. I am Ashley !Qhoeke I Sauls.

The DA, in old apartheid style, claimed this as their victory alone, yet the PA fought for it, and the DA and ANC Ministers

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together executed it. This is the Government of National Unity, GNU, at work and not an opportunity for those in blue to go berserk.

Are we free or are we dom when we see South African academics apply for jobs for which they qualify, just for it to be given to foreign nationals in the name of internationalisation? We call coloureds and Indians black, in general, but when the opportunities are given, then we are not African in particular.

We walk on gold and diamonds, a land of mineral wealth so deep, yet mothers sit in the dark while their hungry children sleep. They have to make a choice between buying a loaf of bread or a prepaid electricity unit to light up their corrugated iron shed. We boast of black excellence, yet one tribe claims to be better than another tribe. Tribalism is just black-on-black colonialism. I must ask, are we free or are we dom?

We will not look the other way whilst hon Fadiel Adams is arrested. We demand to know why the law only seems to have front teeth when it comes to our leaders. Where are the

handcuffs of the Big Five? When will we see the arrest of drug cartels and the mafia?

Afrikaans:

Julle wil die Boesman bemal maak. Gaan aan!

English:

We NCC what you're trying to do.

Well, we know the finished work of Christ on the cross has set us free indeed. So, it stands to reason that in our freedom, we allow the system to make us dom. The system makes us dom when it calls our cry to put South Africans first as xenophobic, when in truth, it is patriotic. It is dom when it makes white South Africans think the word Afrikaner does not mean African in English.

David brought Goliath down with stones, and so did the youth in 1976 with the goliath of apartheid. David took the sword and cut off Goliath's head, but we waited for the goliath of apartheid to regain consciousness in 1994 and negotiated with it instead. Thirty years later, we are free on paper, but dom passing in the same legacy of slavery to our children.

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We are the generation who is anointed to take the sword of the Spirit from the side of the goliath of apartheid and cut off its head, finally moving from a mentality of racism and tribalism in our country; a policy that is destroyed. Then, we shall finally declare that we are free, and we are no longer dom. South Africa, this is our kairos moment of mercy.

Afrikaans:

Ons baiza nie!

English:

Salute. [Applause.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): The next speaker is the hon Van Staden.

Hon Van Staden, will you just take a seat, please. I want to recognise the Chief Whip of the Democratic Alliance.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE: House Chair, I just want to enquire whether the phrase, ons baiza nie, is parliamentary. Thank you.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, we will refer that to the subcommittee on Rules to look into those types of phrases. At the moment, it doesn't appear in the Guide that we have as a word that is unparliamentary, but I will make a formal request for it to be discussed in that forum.

The hon van Staden.

Mr M V DANIELS: Two years later ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Daniels, you cannot just switch on your microphone and start a conversation without being recognised.

Mr M V DANIELS: I apologise, Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): The hon Van Staden ... thank you.

Afrikaans:

Mnr P A VAN STADEN: Agte Huisvoorsitter, op 27 April 1994 het Suid-Afrika se eerste demokratiese verkiesing plaasgevind na

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'n baie moeilike en intense oorgangsproses. Deel van hierdie proses was die onderhandelinge wat by die Konvensie vir 'n Demokratiese Suid-Afrika, Kodesa, in Kemptonpark plaasgevind het. Tydens hierdie onderhandelinge het sekere skikkings en ooreenkomste plaasgevind wat uiteindelik gelei het tot die Grondwet van 1996.

In die Grondwet het ons 'n Handves van Regte. Ons het ook 'n artikel 235 wat die reg tot selfbeskikking erken en die verwesenliking daarvan wettig. Die vraag moet gevra word of Suid-Afrikaners waarlik vry is na die afgelope 32-jaar. Pluk almal werklik die maatskaplike en ekonomiese vrugte van vryheid na 32-jaar van ANC bewind? Die antwoord is nee.

Geen Suid-Afrikaner is werklik vry in Suid-Afrika nie. Werkloosheid, misdaad, korrupsie, wanadministrasie, wanbestuur, die algehele ineenstorting van infrastruktuur, behuisingstekorte, die probleme rakende ons openbare gesondheidsdienste, openbare vervoer, die probleme op ons landsgrense – en die lys gaan aan – is alles oorsake wat alle Suid-Afrikaners se reg tot vryheid en menseregte finaal in die grond in gedryf het.

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Onder die huidige omstandighede is geen Suid-Afrikaner op hierdie stadium vry nie. Niemand van ons is vry nie. Ons vryheid is op hierdie stadium slegs op papier, maar die ANC regering het die vryhede wat gewaarborg is in die Handves van Regte stukkie vir stukkie heeltemal vernietig. Sekere partye in hierdie Parlement maak 'n aanslag op die Grondwet deur 'n poging aan te wend om artikel 235 uit die Grondwet te verwyder. Die internasionale werklikheid is dat die reg op selfbeskikking as 'n meganisme beskou word om spanning binne multikulturele state te ontlont.

Chairperson, South Africans have an opportunity to set their sights on the local government elections taking place on Wednesday, 4 November of this year. This day must be used to break free from the chains of decline in which the ANC has entangled local governments and South Africa as a whole. The most pressing task for all South Africans now, today, is to ensure that they are registered to vote for the upcoming elections. Now is the time to remove the ANC in the local governments after 32 years of destruction. The ANC is finished and its support base is shrinking rapidly. Your time is over.

[Interjections.]

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The 4th of November marks a new dawn of hope. The Freedom Front Plus encourages voters to carefully consider which party's values, principles and policies resonate with them. Seize this opportunity, South Africa. Vote Freedom Front Plus for a better future. I thank you, House Chairperson.

[Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon members.

[Interjections.] Thank you, hon member. The hon Ngobeni.

Order, hon members. Order, hon members! Yes, hon Reddy? Hon Ngobeni, will you take a seat, please.

Mr V G REDDY: Hon Acting Speaker, please advise the GNU partners not to heckle their own GNU partners when they are speaking.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, that's not a point of order. Hon Ngobeni, it's your opportunity now.

Order, hon members! Hon Minister, please proceed.

Ms L M NGOBENI: Hon House Chairperson, when reflecting on the socioeconomic fruits of freedom, we must be truthful, we must

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be sober, we must indeed be honest. After 32 years of democracy, we must ask: Where are the social and economic fruits of this freedom for the majority of South Africans?

Today, over 12 million South Africans are unemployed, and more than 23 million are living in poverty, abject poverty, surviving on less than R1,300 per month. That's 38% of us. This is indeed alarming. This is not the promise of post-apartheid South Africa. It is a profound failure to translate political freedom into economic inclusion and prosperity for South Africans, 94% of whom are black, and 25% of coloured people live in extreme poverty. Both groups are supposedly the ANC's primary motive forces.

We must, therefore, face the uncomfortable truth that the ANC-led GNU has no credible plan to change this trajectory given its primary partners in the current arrangement. It is a scary fact that we are stuck at 1,1% economic growth with no meaningful prospect of improvement in 2026. There is no reform urgency, no policy coherence and no sense of economic direction. Instead, what we see is drift, and in that vacuum, the rule of law is eroded.

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One of the clearest examples of this failure is to enforce our very own immigration and business regulations. For example, South Africa already has a legal requirement that all foreign nationals willing to do business in South Africa must invest R5 million into our country. Seemingly, that requirement only exists on paper. There has been no enforcement and no accountability despite the drive to have all spaza shops having been required to register and comply with the law. What is the point of having regulations if the state lacks the will or capacity to enforce them? So, what are we going to do?

Through ActionSA's #Spaza4Locals Campaign, we are engaging communities across South Africa to check for compliance, to demand answers from the powers that be as to where the R5 million required investment is. How many micro, small and medium enterprises, MSMEs, have benefited from the R500 million Spaza Shop Support Fund, SSSF, to date? This is not about targeting individuals, as those avoiding accountability will have the people believe. It is about ensuring that all businesses operate within the law.

Investment requirements are verified. Health and safety standards are enforced, and economic participation is fair and transparent.

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At the same time, Chairperson, we must acknowledge moments that remind us of our shared humanity. We are relieved that Mazwi Mpumelelo Kubheka has been found alive. In a country often defined by crisis, this is a moment of collective relief and hope.

Economic freedom without opportunity is incomplete and, therefore, false. If we are serious about the next 30 years of democracy, we must confront failures that continue to exclude millions of South Africans from meaningful participation in the economy. In the final analysis, hon House Chair, we do not just want to celebrate freedom, we want to experience it.

Lastly, hon Chair, South Africa does not belong to all who live in it, it belongs to South Africans. [Time expired.]

IsiXhosa:

Sifuna utshintsho kwaye sidikiwe thina ngamamenemene. Enkosi.

Mr W M THRING: Hon House Chairperson, the ACDP recalls that on the 27 April 1994, South Africans stood in long queues, united in hope to cast their first democratic vote. Nearly 20 million voters participated in that historic moment, marking the end

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of apartheid and the birth of a constitutional democracy founded on dignity, equality, and human rights.

The ACDP asserts that Freedom Day is more than a celebration of political liberation. Rather, it is a reminder of promise, one of shared prosperity, justice, and opportunity for all. Yet 32 years later, we must confront the harsh reality that while political freedom has been secured, social and economic freedom remains incomplete. Corruption continues unabated, robbing our people of schools, clinics, and basic services. Public funds are looted with little consequence while accountability remains weak and trust in institutions is eroded.

We cry freedom, yet violent crime continues to stalk our communities, leaving families living in fear rather than dignity. We are told you are free, yet women and children remain unsafe, and gender-based violence and femicide persists as a national crisis, what many have rightfully called a shadow pandemic. We speak freedom, yet unemployment, poverty, and inequality define the daily life for millions of South Africans, and young people in particular feel excluded from the economic uncertainty for their future.

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The ACDP asserts that the vision of 1994 has not failed, but its implementation has. Governance failures, corruption, and weak leadership have delayed the realization of socio and economic freedom. The path forward demands ethical, accountable leadership. The ACDP commits to prioritizing job creation, supporting small businesses, stabilizing energy supply, and investing in education and skills development.

Social cohesion, which include restoring a shared sense of nationhood, grounded in justice, inclusion, and opportunity, is a foundation stone of freedom, and hence Freedom Day must move beyond celebration to honest reflection and decisive action. As kingdom builders, the ACDP is cognizant of the scripture: "if the sun sets you free, you shall be free indeed", because this is where true freedom can be found. I thank you.

IsiXhosa:

Mnu N L S KWANKWA: Maqabane masiyithetheni inyaniso. SiyiUDM inye into esikhathazayo kukuba urhulumente wabantsundu wakhe waphumelela unyulo ngesininzi. Loo nto yayikuqinisekisa ukuba abantu bayaphuma entluphekweni nakwidabi lomhlaba. Balibala kukhumsha, bade banencilikithi, nkqi ukuguqula imeko yomntu

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ontsundu ngendlela ephucukileyo. Kodwa ke akunamsebenzi kuba sesilapha ngoku. Ngoku nihleli nje ningooNomalizo nooMxolisi nihamba nicela amalizo nigezelwa nazezaa ntswelaboya zingooElon Musk. Loo Elon Musk lowo uyanqwakuza ucinga ukuba urhulumente waseMzantsi Afrika kufuneka ave ngaye kodwa kuphethe thina.

Apha eMzantsi Afrika kufuneka bawazi ukuba siwulwele sisonke, awulelwanga nguKhongolose kuphela. Wonke umzi ontsundu wawukwidabi lokulwa kuquka nabanye abantu ababecinezelekile. Ngoku sinoxanduva lokuwukhusela kula mageza angooElon Musk abanqwakuzela eMzantsi Afrika. Mabahlale apho bakhoyo.

Okwesibini, ibuhlungu intlalo ephilwa ngumntu ontsundu kuba usoloko esoyika. Kukho iingxaki zokuhlawuliswa kabantu imali yokukhusela ngoonqevu, ulwaphulomthetho nendlala egunyileyo. Nolo qoqosho siluzamayo ngezibonelelo luye lungahambelindawo. Aba bantu bathengisa ukutya okuthengwa ngezibonelelo bathatha le mali bayithumele kumazwe abo besondla iintsapho zabo. Uyakufumanisa ukuba abahlawuli rhafu ngala mashishini abo, aba bathengisi. Ezi zibonelelo zizama ukuncedisana noqoqosho lwaseMzantsi Afrika. Ingxaki abathengisi bokutya basuka kumanye amazwe kwaye abahlawuli zirhafu zokuthengisa. Loo mali

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iye iphumele kumazwe angaphandle singakwazi ke ukuyityala kuqoqosho lweli lizwe.

Uqoqosho lwasezilokishini luyachaneka yile meko, nto leyo ebangela indlala nentlupheko kuba akukhonto ihlumayo. Idala ukuba abantu bakuthi basoloko bexhomekeke ekukhongozweni ngurhulumente ngalo lonke ixesha. Uphuhliso lwabaNtsundu kwezoQoqosho, BEE, noMthetho wokuLungelelanisa iNgqesho (Employment Equity Act) ingathi sayilibala kudala kusele nje ukukhumsha ngayo kuphela. Ukuba ujonge iJohannesburg Stock Exchange ufumanisa ukuba isaphethwe ngabantu abamhlophe, oondlebe zikhanyilanga kodwa sikhona.

Xa ujonge apha emisebenzini, abelungu abonqeni ukuqeshana bafakane bodwa. Bade bayenze ngakumbi ngokuthi baqashe abantu abantsundu bamanye amazwe bakugqiba bangabahlawuli nakakuhle. Idala ukuxabana kuthi sodwa, thina sizwe esintsundu babe bona abelungu bejonge inzuzo ngaloo nto. Uninzi lwabo alunaxesha lokwakha uqoqosho loMzantsi Afrika. Badinga urhulumente onomqolo, hayi uNomalizo, hayi uXoliswa okanye uXolani umntu ohamba exolisa exakwe nokuba makathini ade amile ingqambu.

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Sifuna urhulumente oza kwazi ukubaxelela ukuba indlela ihamba njani na okanye bathwale iimphahlana zabo baphumele ngaphandle. Enkosi. [Kwaphela ixesha.]

Xitsonga:

Tat S M GANA: Mutshamaxitulu, ...

English:

... today we celebrate the hard-won freedoms we gained over 33 years ago, freedoms like the right to vote, the freedom of expression and the freedom of association. These are vital parts of our democracy. We must also acknowledge that we are no longer a young democracy. Thirty-two years is almost a lifetime, and it can be easy to take these freedoms for granted. Yet, it is important that we take the time to reflect on how much was sacrificed for our democracy and how far we have come since 1994.

We can also never rest on our laurels. Political freedoms are hollow without socio-economic empowerment, and many South Africans have been left behind. Every day, South Africans are plagued by economic anxiety, broken infrastructure, and unsafe streets. Hon members, we still have a lot of work ahead of us

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to ensure that every South African can fully enjoy the fruits of our democracy. We must, however, celebrate the successes of our country, but we must also use these successes as a fuel to continue building.

We must work to ensure that every South African is safe, that every South African has access to a job that empowers them to provide for themselves and their families. We need to continue to build a South Africa that is united and equal. South Africa is ours. It is our country, and we must never give up on its potential.

This year, South Africans will go to the ballot to elect their chosen local leaders. I want to urge every eligible voter to not take their political freedoms for granted. Many have died to ensure that we all can have a say in how our government works. We must make sure that we are registered and make sure that on the 4 November we do cast our vote. However, voting is a necessary condition for bringing change, but it is not enough. We need to elect the best possible leaders amongst ourselves. What is clear is that our municipalities need new leaders.

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To my fellow members in this House, we must never give up fighting to ensure that every South African can fully enjoy the fruits of our democracy. Let us ensure that South Africa and South Africans have leaders that they can trust. We can and must build a safe, prosperous and united South Africa in one generation.

Xitsonga:

Ndza khensa, Mutshamaxitulu.

Setswana:

Ngk M A MAIMANE: Bagaetsho, dumelang.

English:

House Chairperson, Martin Luther King said: "None of us are free until the last one is". And I ask myself this question continuously when I was recently in Dobsonville attending to a crime scene where a young girl was violently raped. I ask myself this question when young people today will tell you that two out of three of them cannot find work. I ask this question of myself when you go around in our nation, and you discover that young people are comfortable when their government tells them they can pass at 30%.

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Now, hon members, President Mandela at his inauguration said that truly: "The sun shall never set on so glorious a human achievement". I want to categorically state that the transition from apartheid to freedom was a glorious achievement. It gave all of us the right to be who we want to be, to self-identify. It's why when we started Bosa we wanted to be clear that black, white, Indian and coloured can be South Africans first and foremost. That we never must derive legitimacy in our country by mobilising citizens on the basis of race and wanting to argue that this race is more important than another race. That ultimately our freedom can only be secure when all shall prosper together, and no one is left behind.

So fellow South Africans, we need to remind ourselves on days such as this one that the one way we can make the sun set on this glorious achievement is to allow the corrupt to walk around being corrupt; is to allow the crooks to terrorise our homes and be violent where crime continues; is to allow ourselves to never write laws that build inclusive economies. When that happens, this glorious achievement will see the sun set on it.

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Fellow South Africans and hon members, we dare not fail to deliver for our people. Our citizens are guaranteed the right to water. They are guaranteed the right to work. They want a decent education. They want to know they live in a safe country. If we fail to do that, we will allow charlatans to stand up and divide us again and let the sun set on this glorious achievement.

President Mandela closes with these words: "Let indeed, let freedom reign". Coretta Scott King says: "freedom is never won; it ought to be fought for in every generation". May our generation fight for freedom now. Let freedom reign.

Setswana:

Ke a leboga.

Ms S P JAMA: House Chair, hon Members of the National Assembly, compatriots of this great nation, what a profound privilege it is to stand before you. Before I begin, I rise with a heavy heart to honour and dedicate my maiden speech to comrade Banyana Ndodo Khuthamo Makaula, my ANC comrade and fellow activist in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,

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queer/questioning, and intersex, LGBTQI, desk of the Women's League.

Today, we have lost not only a leader, but also a fearless voice for dignity, equality, and the full humanity of those too often pushed to the margins of our society. I knew comrade Banyana as disciplined, courageous, and deeply committed to the struggle for South Africa that lives up to the promise of its Constitution.

She was especially passionate about the representation of queer people in all corridors of power and decision-making. That this House must not speak about the people but must begin to look like the people in all their diversity. We will honour her legacy, not in words alone, but through our work in this Parliament.

IsiXhosa:

Hamba kakuhle joni likaSimon Nkoli, siya kubonana kwelizayo.

English:

We meet in this august House against the backdrop of the 32nd anniversary of our country's democracy. In April, we do not

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only mark the founding of the people's Republic, but it is also a month where we are reminded of the true cost of existence as a nation and as a people of South Africa.

In April 1993, our nation stood on the precipice of both grief and transformation. The brutal assassination of comrade Chris Hani shook the country, followed soon after by the passing of one of our most distinguished leaders, President Oliver Tambo. Yet in the face of this profound loss, the people of South Africa did not retreat or cower. Instead, they pressed forward and kept the hope of a new South Africa alive.

In 1994, millions of South Africans, many for the very first time, stood in long queues, not in protest, but in hope and solidarity of a South Africa free from the chains of apartheid regime. This moment did not emerge in isolation. It was the people of South Africa who, in the 1950s, answered the call to defy the brutality of apartheid. It was the people who, in a Sharpeville massacre, were gunned down without warning, paying the ultimate price for freedom. And it was the youth, the children of this country, who, during the Soweto uprising, rose against a system designed to diminish their humanity. They stood unarmed, yet unshaken. With nothing but their

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courage, their fist, and an unbreakable and indomitable spirit. They confronted injustice. It is this spirit that lives in us today.

To accord with my generational peers, we are our ancestors' wildest dreams, but we also carry their unfinished work. The youth of this country carry with them both the spectre and aspirations of those who came before us. We, the youth, since the dawn of democracy and recently, as 2015, in the period of the colloquially known as "Fears Must Fall", have consistently asked for the tools to shape our own destiny. Not a handout, hardly a pacifier, but the right to be.

And it is from this foundation, that hard-won, blood-soaked foundation, that I stand here today to say, without equivocation or apology, South Africa is, in the deepest and most meaningful sense, the finest nation on this earth.

I do not say this with the naivety of someone who has not walked our streets at night, or stood in a queue at a public hospital, or watched low-shedding schedules devour a small business. I say it looking at these realities in the eye. I say it as a young queer woman in a country where my full

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personhood was encoded in the Constitution before most nations had even begun the conversation. I say this as a feminist who reads the preamble, "We, the People of South Africa", and understands that these words were not decorative. They were a promise, and they remain a demand.

Which other nation, borne in the rubble of systemic dehumanisation, chose as its first act of sovereign will, not vengeance, but reconciliation? What other country placed the dignity of every person, regardless of race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or belief, as the founding architecture of a state?

We do not inherit a perfect country. We are both an aspirational one, and that aspiration remains our political task. Our Constitution remains amongst the most progressive in the history of human governance. It does not merely tolerate difference, it affirms it. It is because we love this country so completely that we will not allow its story to be distorted within and without.

In recent months, South Africa has been the subject of a campaign of misrepresentation on the world stage. Claims

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amplified by powerful voices that this government persecutes a racial minority, that white South Africans face state-sanctioned violence, or that genocide is imminent, are both reckless and untrue.

The African National Congress rejects these claims in the strongest terms, not because any government is about scrutiny, but because these allegations are not made in good faith and are not supported by fact. They are a political project.

South Africa is a nation in which every citizen, regardless of race, enjoys constitutional protection, a nation in which the courts remain independent, the press remains free, and the opposition parties sit in this very chamber and speak without fear of arrest. The ANC's commitment to reconciliation is a foundational doctrine, paid for in the currency of what our people were entitled to demand and chose not to. It is the reason President Mandela walked out of Victor Verster Prison and called not for retribution, but for partnership.

It is the reason the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was convened, not to erase the past, but to face it openly, together, and to build something that could survive it. We did

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not reconcile because we forgot what was done to us. We reconciled because we understood that a nation cannot be built on the perpetual re-litigation of its worst chapters.

We carry the memory of apartheid not as a weapon, but as a warning to ourselves and the world. Those who today invoke the language of victimhood to avoid accountability for land concentration, for accumulated generational wealth, for the ongoing structural advantages that apartheid built and democracy has not yet fully dismantled, they do not speak for reconciliation. They speak against it.

South Africa will not be misrepresented into shame. We know who we are. This House must hold a further truth without flinching. The gap between the Constitution's promise and the lives of ordinary South Africans remains a wound we cannot romanticise. Over 32% of our people remain unemployed. The youth unemployment rate tells the story so severe, it ought to shame every comfortable chair in this chamber. Women, particularly black women, continue to bear the double burden of economic exclusion and gender-based violence at rates that constitute a national crisis. The promise is present. The delivery is incomplete.

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I say this as a product of the ANC Youth League, as someone who carries the lessons of Robben Island and the memory of President Winnie Mandela's defiance. We do not abandon a project because it is difficult. Our task is not to mourn the distance we have yet to travel. Our task is to close it.

The ANC Youth League has for decades been the conscience of this movement. When the movement drifted, it was the youth who pulled it back toward the people. This is not coincidence. This is a historical fact. The youth of this country are not a beneficiary class waiting to be uplifted. They are an active political force, and they must be treated as such.

I am here to make a commitment that South Africa's greatness is not confined to its past, even when baited by privileged white men like hon Cameron, who carelessly proclaims in this House today that freedom is divorced from the right to vote. It lives restlessly in the young woman in Kwa-Langa who walks kilometres to a library to study, in the young woman in Mokopane who built a solar panel from salvaged parts, in the trans woman in Kakamas who is fighting for the right to simply exist without violence. There are no stories of failure. They are evidence of a people who refuses to collapse.

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Let us not mistaken difficulty for failure. Let not allow those who have never loved this country to narrate this story. South Africa belongs to those who live in it, who grieve in it, who fight in it, and who despite everything, still choose it. I choose it. And so, I close where I began.

In gratitude to the African National Congress, to the martyrs of the Sharpeville massacre, to the children of the Soweto uprising, to Chris Hani and Oliver Tambo, to Nelson and Winnie Mandela, and, indeed, to the countless others unnamed, unrecognised, and uncelebrated who made this republic possible. Thirty-two years is young for a democracy, and like all young things, it requires care. This House is that care. Let us scamper through that understanding. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): Hon Reddy, what is your point of order?

Mr V G REDDY: Thank you very much for recognising me. I did not want to interrupt my hon colleague, but I am very concerned and I seek your guidance. Many of the members are not even listening to any of these speeches, and I can understand why. Because tonight, something major is happening

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in this country, where South Africans are going to be hit with a massive fuel increase, and they are wondering what Parliament is going to do about it.

Is there any way that we can introduce something like that in Parliament, where we can discuss the catastrophic impact that these increases are going to have on South Africans?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Reddy, I think you should have contributed to your member's speech during the debate. However, at this moment, we cannot entertain that. You know the appropriate channels to follow when you want a topic discussed. We have mini plenaries, and you also participate in the Chiefs Whip's Forum. Please use those channels. Shall we continue? Hon Dugmore, what is your point of order?

Mr C DUGMORE: Thank you very much, Chair. I would just like to address you on your ruling. I think one of the problems that we are having in the House is that hon Reddy does not refer to the rule that he is raising when he raises a point of order, and effectively then abuses the House by making a speech which, as you say, one of his members should have made. So, I want to appeal to you Chair, could you please ask all members

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to indicate in terms of which rule they raise points of order.
Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Noted, hon Dugmore. Hon Moosa, please take your seat.

Mr M MANYI: Chair, the hon member should lead by example.
Which rule did he use to make that point?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Manyi, I have made a ruling on this one. I do not want any debate regarding this issue, and we are moving on. I have called upon hon Moosa to come to the podium for the debate.

Mr M MANYI: Chair, be fair. Do not collapse the House, Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): No, I did not. Hon Manyi, switch off your mic. Hon Moosa, please continue.

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: In the name of Almighty, the most gracious and the most merciful, I greet all our beloved family of South Africans in the name of peace. Al Jama-ah Party pays tribute to the martyrs and all political activists who contributed to

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the liberation of South Africa from colonialism and the brutal apartheid policies. Freedom Day is a symbol of dignity, political rights, and the power of collective struggle. However, our country still faces severe challenges on the socioeconomic front.

What was achieved was not total liberation, but a political transition which have not brought about the fundamental economic changes our martyrs sacrificed their lives for. At the same time, Al Jama-ah acknowledges that the new dispensation has changed the lives of many, but not for the majority of disadvantaged people. We know that there is no freedom without ownership of land.

We have our political rights, but enjoying economic freedom remains a long way off. Genuine transition from oppression means ownership of land, access to tertiary education, decent jobs, opportunities, and access to quality primary education in safe environments. Safety, security, and economic opportunities for disadvantaged people must be unlocked. We cannot continue to have remnants of apartheid.

Al Jama-ah believes that the country's economic problems are not caused by illegally document foreign nationals. Those

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mobilising against African and Asian foreign nationals should direct their protests to the increasing estates in the Western Cape or the boardrooms of Sandton. As Al Jama-ah, we firmly believe that an African cannot be regarded as a foreigner anywhere within South Africa. Our continent's history, struggles, and shared humanity bind us together beyond artificial borders.

We must expose those paid agents, whether local or foreign, who deliberately incite hatred against fellow human beings, and, most tragically, who fuel black-on-black violence. We have witnessed these divide-and-rule tactics during apartheid, and we refuse to allow such destructive strategies to take root again.

As proud South Africans, we remain resolute and unwavering in our commitment to uphold human dignity and defend fundamental human rights. We will continue to stand firm and speak out boldly against any form of oppression and injustice reminiscent of apartheid-era crimes.

Al Jama-ah calls for the urgent and fair processing of refugee status, residency, and citizenship applications, and in doing

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so, we affirm our commitment to the values of justice, unity, and compassion that define us as Africans. Thank you.

Malibongwe!

The MINISTER OF LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: House Chairperson, "The tree of liberty will be nourished by the blood of our martyrs," so said the struggle stalwart, Bra Mike Sello Matsobane to a group of young people in Kagiso, in March 1976. Matsobane was convicted for 12 years in the secret Bethel trial that put the PAC in the apartheid courts for its underground activities from 1963 to 1976.

The freedom we are discussing today was earned through blood, tears and sweat of the champions of the liberation movements. Many innocent and defenceless people were massacred and razed down to the ground with bullets from the denialists of freedom. The freedom we won and celebrated on 27 April 1994 and onwards, since then, is a freedom that belongs to the people as a whole. The universal franchise that allowed every citizen to vote is very valuable and gives the African masses the right to choose their leaders and public representatives - the right earned very hard to decide their collective destiny.

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The freedom to vote, for all of us, was worn at the talks when others were saying only those with qualifications, like matric or having property in their names, should be on the voters' roll, which is why we encourage the new generations to understand what it means to put their X on the ballot. It is to claim their souls and keep it. It is to link up with freedom fighters and keep the latter in spirit of the victory to be real and tangible.

The fruit of freedom in a social sense means that our communities must own the land in which generations have been fighting for and keep it in good, safe and fairways among themselves. No one should be excluded from owning the land collectively as part of the society they live in.

The fruit of freedom in an economic sense, must make every family to own a piece of land or ground that they call home. A house on the soil of Africa is a sacred place, a spiritual belonging, an economic value that can be determined in monetary terms, a form of wealth that the family have and the right of tenure which they can call generational wealth.

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The PAC sees the link of the universal franchise in the vote as an important value of freedom which we have sacrificed so much. The link is like a chain that binds us to the Republic as citizens of equal value, to utilise the power of the victory against apartheid and settler colonialism, not only morally, but in real terms of social and economic value.

Citizens must take responsibility of exercising their power at the voting stations by deciding who they want to be in the public representative space of government, to make their quality of life in the villages of the rural areas and in the suburbs of the cities, in the townships and other living spaces or areas to be part of human dignity. Azania deserves better. Thank you.

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Hon Chairperson ...

Sesotho:

Kgotso, Maafrika!

English:

Today, I rise as a proud voice of the UAT, rooted in the spirit of Ubuntu, carrying the torch for pan-African

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radicalism, and committed to the unfinished work of uhuru and chimurenga. Ours is the home of the destitute, the disabled, the orphans, the widows and the vulnerable children of the African soil.

Today, we are told to celebrate the fruits of democracy. Yet, the promise of freedom has become a bitter harvest for millions. What value does the political independence hold if the access to land and resources remain concentrated in the hands of the few? Thirty years later, most of our people remain landless tenants in the land of our forefathers, while the beneficiaries of colonialism still hold the title deeds.

We are expected by our own government to buy back the land that was stolen from our forebears. Our question is, from who did these landlords buy the land from? Our constitution, though trapped in noble ideas, too often protect the interests of the minority at the expense of the African majority. The spirit of Ubuntu, the philosophical heart of Pan-Africanism, is being eroded as our people are denied self-determination.

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The three pillars of government - the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary - have failed to put the people first, most of all in the fight for land justice.

Consider the tragedy of Bredasdorp in the Western Cape. Land is promised to the poor, but only if you meet the criteria: Be under 29; have three children; and be unemployed. Even then, plots are revoked without support or opportunity. This is not a new phase of exclusion; it is a modern system designed to keep our people in chain of dependency, under the watchful eye of the GNU, the IMF, Anglo and the Western powers.

Fellow Africans - Maafrika - Freedom Day must not be a celebration of privileged few; it must be the festival of chimurenga, the ongoing struggle for all. Until the land is restored, until the Constitution serves African majority, until Ubuntu is our guiding star, our liberation remain incomplete. Let us raise our voice, demand the true transformation and claim the real fruits of the freedom of every African.

Xitsonga:

Khanimambo!

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Ms N K SHARIF: House Chair, as we commemorate 32 years of freedom and the democratic gains we have made and continue to make, it is important that we take stock of where we come from, where we are and where we are going. We have undoubtedly come a long way. Democracy in South Africa continues to evolve.

In 2024, the people exercised their democratic freedom and delivered a new mandate, one that resulted in the government of national unity. This is proof that our democracy is working, but we must remain vigilant in safeguarding it from polarisation, destructive ideology and anything that undermines and is in direct contrast to the core principles of democracy.

Dressing up hatred as patriotism and using real pain of people for political gain, as hon Sauls and his *Facebook* party is keen to do, is just one example of the type of populist ideology raising its ugly head. Hon members, freedom was never guaranteed. It was hard fought for by brave South Africans. That is why we must never take it for granted. We must also recognise that the struggle for freedom did not end in 1994.

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It continues for those still forced to live without dignity and locked out of opportunity.

Hon House Chair, words matter. They have meaning. We can speak about freedom in theory, but the lived reality for too many South Africans tells a different story. Millions of people remain trapped and shackled by poverty, inequality and a lack of opportunity. We cannot claim freedom for all while so many remain unfree, until we start tackling social ills facing our communities.

The Department of Social Development has a critical role to play into breaking these shackles and lifting people out of poverty and into a life of dignity. Social Development is one of the most important departments in government because it serves those with the least amount of freedom, the most vulnerable in our country.

The Department of Social Development must lead the fight against substance abuse, which continues to trap communities in cycles of destruction and perpetual hopelessness. The department must ensure that the fight against gender-based violence and femicide is relentless, and that shelters,

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interventions and legislations are strong enough to move us towards a safer society for women, girls and the LGBTIQ+ community.

Together with Sassa, this department must ensure that social grants are delivered effectively, efficiently, with dignity, and without putting lives at risk while waiting in line to get assistance. Until this is done ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms J Majozi): Hon Sharif, can you please take a seat? There is a point of order.

Ms J S PETERSEN: House Chair, I just want to know if the member on the podium is willing to take a question?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms J Majozi): Okay! Hon Sharif, are you willing to take a question?

Ms N K SHARIF: I am not, House Chair. Until this is done - until we have functioning rehabilitation centres, effective referral systems and interventions that work to fight against substance abuse - there must be enough social workers that are accessible to assist with providing people with tools to cope

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with trauma and the violence that so many people continue to face.

Until we see real progress in the fight against GBVF, and until people no longer die waiting in queues for grants, we cannot speak honestly about freedom. We cannot celebrate Freedom Day until everyone is free.

It is a sad reality that the Department of Social Development continues to fall short of its mandate. This failure is not abstract. It is an injustice to millions who rely on the department as a lifeline. There are people striving for a future free from poverty, free from violence, free from substance abuse, free from inequality and free from corruption.

The Department of Social Development has a vital role to play. However, how do we move forward when the Minister continues to bring it into disrepute? What confidence can South Africans have when scandal after scandal engulfs this Minister? Most recently, there are allegations that a food aid was forced to hand over almost half of their income for so-called household

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expenditures. Is this freedom? Is this how we uplift people and create opportunity? It cannot be!

When a Minister tasked with protecting the most vulnerable is instead consumed by constant controversy, it undermines the fight against poverty and inequality and erodes public trust. If we are serious about freedom for all, then we must start with accountability in the Department of Social Development - real, consistent accountability. We must say clearly and collectively, enough is enough. The people of South Africa must come first.

Collaboration across society is essential if we are to confront the deep social challenges we face; but collaboration without accountability is meaningless. Accountability cannot be selective. It must be the standard. This is why we will continue to call for a parliamentary inquiry in the Portfolio Committee on Social Development.

Hon members, freedom cannot be reserved for a select few. It must be real, it must be tangible and it must be accessible to every South African, regardless of who they are or where they come from. Until that is achieved, debates like this become

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hollow because debating ideals without delivering change does nothing for the people we serve. Freedom is a right that many people die for. We cannot squander it. I thank you.

[Applause.]

The MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION: Hon House Chair and hon members, good evening. House Chair, as a nation, our 32-years journey of the past has since begun with all the challenges. As ANC, we are saying neither flaws nor perfectness can be attributed to these 32 years. Yet, it is a story of undeniable progress that cannot be ignored by all of you in this hon House. It is a story of a country that has progressed, a country that has moved from exclusion to inclusion, from denial to recognition and from oppression to freedom. None of you can deny that. That is why you are here today, speaking as you do, because you are free, hon Reddy. No one can deny the challenges, struggles, hardships, setbacks, frustrations and painful contradictions that we have faced. However, our journey has also been carried with hope, triumph, endurance, renewal, extraordinary national achievements and remarkable progress that many countries around the world can only dream of.

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Our democratic era has delivered significant progress, that you know. But when you are in this platform, you tend to deny everything and that is not fair. The speaker who stood here on behalf of MKP spoke of a shadow, yet she herself was able to stand here and speak because South Africa is free. When we liberated South Africa, we liberated everyone including those who were born only recently. They too, can stand here and speak as they do because they are free. Let us acknowledge the fact that South Africa is no longer the same. However, there are challenges. It was worse even when your Baba was here for nine years. Your Baba was here and it was worse.

[Interjections.]

Hon members, our democracy is founded on nonracialism and nonsexism, as enshrined in the Constitution. We will not allow anyone to take South Africa back to a racist past. We will not allow that.

Today, South Africa enjoys vibrant, independent press, freedom of speech, open media and meaningful political participation. As the ANC, we are saying, there are regular elections every five years which are free and fair. Come 4 November, 179 days to go.

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IsiXhosa:

Kuza kushiyana omama ukondla. Maze niyeke ukukhala ke xa sidibana evotini nina bantu bakhalayo. Nisoloko nikhalaza ngokuqhathwa kodwa aniyi kwiinkundla zamatyala ukuya kumangala.

English:

The reality is that you do not have facts and you cannot go to court.

IsiXhosa:

Niyahoboloza nje apha esithubeni anikwazi ukuya kwinkundla zamatyala. Ingxaki yenu anikhange niluphumelele unyulo.

English:

You have imagination that you won the previous general elections in KwaZulu-Natal. You did not win. Nothing to show. Come 04 November. We are ...

IsiXhosa:

... ukhona umntu ofuna ukuthetha phaya.

English:

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Continue, hon Minister, hon members, can we allow the speaker on the podium to continue and not drown her? Okay, hon Minister, can you please take a seat? Hon Michalakis, what is your point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: House Chair, it is all incredibly exciting but can we request that the Minister please use a bit more of a moderate tone? We cannot hear her screaming here at the back. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Okay, we will request that. The hon member of the DA says that when you speak loudly, they cannot hear what you are actually saying. So, maybe if you speak through the microphone but not a bit louder so that it does not burst through the speakers. No, hon members, no.

IsiXhosa:

UMPHATHISWA WEZAMANZI NOGUTYULO: Hayi, uyandimosha lo.

English:

As the ANC, we believe and trust the Independent Election Commission, IEC. They will deliver votes with the same

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integrity that they have been doing for the past years. Put your house in order and contest elections to win.

IsiXhosa:

Unyulo aluphumelelwa apha ePalamente, kufuneka uphumele ngaphandle phaya. Sihlalo weNdlu, umahluko uyabonakala kuluntu lakowethu kodwa yona inyaniso emsulwa kukuba amanani anyukile kunakuqala. Ndingazekelisa ndenze nje.

English:

When we took over government ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): Hon Minister, can you please take a seat? Hon Reddy, what are you rising on?

Mr V G REDDY: Hon House Chair, will the beautiful Minister be prepared to take a question?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): Hon Minister, are you prepared to take a question?

IsiXhosa:

UMPHATHISWA WEZAMANZI NOGUTYULO: Mayize.

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English:

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms ZMajozi): Yes, the hon Minister is prepared to take a question. However, I want to advise the hon Minister that this will take up some of her speaking time.

Mr V G REDDY: She cannot refuse me.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): You are allowed to ask the question, hon Reddy. You are allowed to ask the question now. You can stand.

Mr V G REDDY: My question to the Minister is, given the fact that the country is in a water crisis, most people do not have access to water, is that real freedom? And to see that, especially in the last five years, from the time of a predecessor, the situation has gone from bad to worse. I just want to ask the beautiful Minister that question, please. Thank you, House Chair.

The MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION: That is a correct question. Thank you very much, hon Reddy. That is the correct question to ask. As I always respond to that question, that when it comes to bulk water supply and raw water, there is no

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challenge. But indeed, there is a challenge when it comes to reticulation. Indeed, we have a challenge when it comes to distribution. That is why even the President has tried to intervene now to say: how do we ensure that we come closer to the local government sphere, which is mandated to deliver water? I cannot deny the fact that not all South Africans have access on reliable water. That is a fact.

IsiXhosa:

UMPHATHISWA WEZAMANZI NOGUTYULO: Hayi ndiyathetha ngoku, ndiniphendulile umbuzo wenu.

English:

Today, the participation is near the universal, with over 95% of children aged from six to 15 years in school and more than 15 million learners enrolled nationally. Are you not calling that freedom? When our children are getting school nutrition programme daily. Are you not calling that freedom? When the Municipal Indigent Policy gets implemented, are you not calling that freedom? What do you call it, if you do not call it freedom? When 1,2 million students are getting National Student Financial Aid Scheme, Nsfas. What do you call that? Is

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that not freedom? There are more than seven million beneficiaries over time that are going to get Nsfas.

IsiXhosa:

Uyafika ke wena, andikwazi nokwazi.

English:

What do you call it when there is National Health Insurance, NHI, that has been passed and is about to be implemented? Are you not calling that freedom? When there is Basic Education Laws Amendment Act, are you not calling that freedom? This is the freedom that we are talking about.

As the ANC, we know for the fact that we come a long way with the traditional leadership institutions. We are going to demonstrate our unwavering support for traditional leadership institutions to ensure that whatever is done in the country, we are not only compatible with our Constitution but we respect the Constitution. We are not going to be constitutional delinquents at any moment.

Hon Chair, it is also important to note that when we took this country in 1994, the population was standing at 40,3 million.

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Today, we are talking about the population that is standing at 63 million. Surely, the infrastructure is exhausted and drained. Therefore, we need more investment in the infrastructure. That is why we go out to the financial markets to say, let us work together. That is why the business sector in South Africa, through the economic transformation, must play its part. We are playing our part in terms of the social transformation. But one of the EFF members said, the issue of economic transformation cannot be shelved any longer. We fully agree that economic transformation must remain at the top of the agenda.

Hon Chair, the mighty ANC is going to ensure that what we agreed upon in 1994 of setting everyone free will continue with that agenda because we are still far from the end. House Chair, this is a call to protect and advance our freedom. Our freedom did not come free. That is why some people come here and rubbish that freedom, because they do not understand what it entails. With this freedom we must strengthen our institutions. We must confront fraud, malfeasance and corruption wherever it raises its ugly head. We also welcome all the commissions established by the President because it is these commissions that are really unveiling what has been

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happening in these institutions and we have confidence in the commissions.

Hon Chair, the constitutional democracy has also ensured that we have equality, dignity and freedom everywhere. Hon Chair, I thank you very much. Come November 4, vote the ANC, the people's party, the people's government. Thank you.

[Applause.]

**UNPARLIAMENTARY REMARKS BY HON LONZI TO THE MINISTER OF WOMEN,
YOUTH AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

(Ruling)

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majози): Hon members, on 18 March 2026 hon Dugmore rose on a point of order alleging that hon Lonzi stated that the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities "is lying" when she responded to a follow up question by hon Van Der Merwe.

On examining the unrevised Hansard, it shows the following remarks made by hon Lonzi:

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Chair, on a point of order: No, thank you, to come like this, Chair, but the Minister is misleading the House. It is the NYDA that said they spent R1,4 million. It is not an allegation. They are the ones who submitted the report and said we spent R1,4 million on one programme.

After I had said to hon Lonzi that this was a matter of debate, he responded by saying: But the hon Minister is lying.

Rule 85 provides that no member may impute improper motives to any other member or cast personal reflections upon a member's integrity or dignity or verbally abuse a member in any other way. To state that the Minister is lying, directly contravenes the provision of Assembly Rule 85.

It is disappointing, hon Lonzi, that you first sought to imply that the Minister was misleading the House, which is permissible as it could be inadvertent, but then, after I had ruled on that matter, you proceeded to state that the Minister was lying. You are aware that this is not allowed in terms of our rules and practices.

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Hon Lonzi, I now request you to stand and withdraw your remark that the Minister Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities was lying.

Hon Lonzi!

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: On a point of order, House Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): There's no point of order, I'm still dealing with a ruling.

Hon Lonzi!

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: On a point of order, House Chair.

Precisely on your ruling and presiding on the procedure ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): You know the procedures that you need to follow in order for you to do that ...

[Interjections.]

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: Yes, you are not following the procedure hence I'm calling a point of order ...

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Lonzi, can you stand!

[Interjections.]

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: You are yet again disrupting this House

...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Ntlangwini ...

[Interjections.]

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: But I'm calling a point of order ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Ntlangwini, I'm not going to take any point of order. I'm still dealing with a ruling ... [Interjections.]

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: But I'm calling a point of order ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): You are going to sit, hon Ntlangwini ... [Interjections.]

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: I'm calling a point of order ...

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Ntlangwini, please take your seat!

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: I'm calling a point of order ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): No, you can't call a point of order while I'm still dealing with a ruling ...

[Interjections.]

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: But what you are doing is wrong ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): I am dealing with this ruling. May you please take your seat!

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: Okay. No, continue!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Lonzi!

Mr S LONZI: Chair, what are the consequences of a Minister that misleads Parliament? Perhaps that can be something that the Chair must also look into ...

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): Hon Lonzi, I'm sure you heard me when I said ... I read out the ruling. I am not allowing you to have an engagement.

I'm saying: Can you stand and withdraw that the Minister is lying! And you know that it is not ... [Interjections.]

Mr S LONZI: For the sake of progress, Chair, we'll withdraw.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): Thank you very much, hon member.

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: On a point of order, House Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): I have not recognised you, hon Ntlangwini!

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: On a point of order ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): I have not recognised you. You will switch off the mic and raise your hand!

[Interjections.] You may sit first. After I've recognised you, you will then stand.

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Hon Ntlangwini!

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: [Interjections.] No problem, I'll comply to all of you but *kosalayo* [the bottom line is that] you will listen to me.

House Chair, what you have done was procedurally wrong, and you know it. Because before you are even ... how were you going to know if hon Lonzi was not going to be in the House? Because at least you should have had the courtesy that we are always doing, to alert the Chief Whip that you are going to place a ruling on someone, and that is how it has been done throughout the years. So, this new terms of working can't be continuous.

So, please, just correct it, that your rulings ... next time when you are doing that, we will let our members walk out. Because at least you must take ... do the courtesy to let us know. It has always happened like that.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majози): Hon Ntlangwini, I'm sure you would know that it is not the House Chairperson or the presiding officer that informs the Chief Whip, it will be

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coming from the Table that is supporting the presiding officers. So, as of now, I was informed that hon Lonzi is in the House, that is why I had that ruling. So, there is absolutely nothing wrong on that side. But I will check with the Table if, indeed, the Chief Whip of the EFF was not informed.

Hon members, we move again. There was another point of order which was raised by hon Michalakis on reference ...

[Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE EFF (Mrs N J Nolutshungu): Point of order, Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): Hon Chief Whip of the EFF!

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE EFF (Mrs N J Nolutshungu): I was never notified and I was at least expecting you to ask me first before you conclude that you are not aware whether we have been informed or not. But I can clearly state that we were never informed.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Thank you for stating that. That is why I did say that I will still consult with the Table to check if there was any communication ...

[Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE EFF ((Mrs N J Nolutshungu): But I'm telling you that we were never informed ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): No, we are not going to have an engagement. I am saying, I will check. So, I can't take only what I'm informed on one part. So, I must get that ... if two parts do agree that you were not informed, and we are not going to have an engagement. I have made that ruling.

REMARKS BY HON S MUHAMAPELO ON HON SMITH

(Ruling)

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon members, On 19 March 2026 during a debate on *The escalating crisis in the Middle East following the recent US attack on Iran and the implications this has on South Africa*, while the hon S O R Mahumapelo was delivering a speech, hon G Michalakis rose on a

point of order in terms of Rule 85 and stated that hon Mahumapelo said that hon Smith would have been arrested under certain circumstances.

He argued that by making that statement the member was casting aspersions on hon Smith and implied that he was a criminal.

He further argued that if hon Mahumapelo had any proof of hon Smith having committed a crime he had to bring the matter to the attention of the House through a substantive motion.

I then indicated that we'd make a ruling on that matter at a later stage.

Unrevised Hansard records Hon Mahumapelo as having said the following, amongst others:

You must know, hon Smith, that you are a beneficiary of a struggle of black people and Africans who sacrificed their life for you to stand up here and speak without you being arrested by the police. You know no sacrifice of the struggle.

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After the point of order was raised, hon Mahumapelo sought to clarify his statement and stated that: In simple terms, hon presiding officer, what is bequeathed to people like hon Smith here today is a consequence of the struggle and the sacrifices of black people.

I find that hon Mahumapelo's challenged remarks regarding hon Smith were meant to illustrate a historical fact of the rights that citizens now enjoy as a consequence of the end of apartheid, during which people would be arrested for expressing their views.

This is evident that the original statement by hon Mahumapelo and his subsequent elaboration after the point of order was raised, it cannot by any stretch of one's imagination be interpreted to mean that hon Smith committed a crime, for which a substantive motion would be required. It is a historical fact that people used to be arrested for things they said. That is why we have freedom of expression in our Bill of Rights today.

I do not find that hon Mahumapelo's statement violated any rule of debate.

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The point of order by hon Michalakis is, therefore, not sustained. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

CONGRATULATIONS TO PROF RELEBOHILE MOLETSANE

(Draft Resolution)

Ms M L MMOLOTSANE: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) notes that Prof Relebohile Moletsane has been honoured with an honorary Doctor of Education degree by the University of the Free State at the Qwaqwa campus on 11 April 2026;
- (2) further notes that she was honoured for her transformative contributions to education, gender equity, and rural development;
- (3) understands that from her early days as the J L Dube Chair in Rural Education at the University of

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KwaZulu-Natal, to her current leadership of the Female Academic Leaders Fellowship Wits Chair in Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, she has consistently centred the voices of the most marginalised, particularly girls and young women in rural communities;

- (4) believes that her visual participatory research methodologies have not only advanced scholarship but have also empowered communities to tell their own stories, document their own experiences, and advocate for systemic change;
- (5) acknowledges that her national and international recognition includes major research chairs, prestigious fellowships, and the Distinguished Women in Science Award from the Department of Science and Technology; and
- (6) congratulates Prof Moletsane on this well-deserved honour.

Agreed to.

THE CATASTROPHIC FLOODING ACROSS LIMPOPO AND MPUMALANGA

(Draft Resolution)

Mr A D DE BLOCQ VAN SCHELTINGA: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) remembers the catastrophic flooding across Limpopo and Mpumalanga in January this year;
- (2) recalls that the Kruger National Park was especially hard hit with damages exceeding a billion Rand;
- (3) congratulates South African National Parks for their excellent disaster response, including evacuating hundreds of visitors and staff without incurring a single injury or casualty;
- (4) acknowledges that the Kruger National Park is a world-renowned conservation and tourism asset, which

supports significant employment and economic opportunities;

- (5) realises that rebuilding will require significant investment and a whole-of-society approach;
- (6) supports the Minister's establishment of the Kruger Recovery Fund to fund raise for this purpose;
- (7) commends the Minister for securing independent auditors to ensure good governance and donor confidence; and
- (8) encourages South Africans and the international community to assist with donations and in-kind support for the Kruger Recovery Fund.

Agreed to.

**THE CONTINUED EXCLUSION OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM
DISORDER**

(Draft Resolution)

Ms M C MAGAFANE: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) notes with grave concern the continued exclusion of children with autism spectrum disorder from the public education system;
- (2) further notes the severe shortage of autism-specific public schools, trained educators, and adequate support services;
- (3) acknowledges that thousands of children remain on waiting lists, while others are left without access to appropriate education and developmental support;
- (4) recognises that this constitutes a systemic failure that undermines the constitutional right to basic education, dignity, and equality; and
- (5) calls on the government to urgently:

- (a) expand autism-specific public schools across all provinces with clear funding commitments;
- (b) invest in specialised training for educators and support personnel;
- (c) strengthen early diagnosis and intervention programmes; and
- (d) develop a national autism education strategy with clear targets and accountability.

Agreed to.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE 2ND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Hon House Chair, this is not an objection. I am rising on a point of order in term of Rule 123(2) (VII) which states that the motion may not contain any ... Let me just get to seven. It may not propose to issue an instruction to the executive. I would like your ruling in terms of that Rule, whether this motion does indeed give an instruction to the executive in which case it would not be allowed. Thank you.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Mickalakis, listening to the motion without notice of the hon member, I don't think it does give a direct instruction to the Minister, because she does say she calls upon the Minister, which is a persuasion of a matter, not of a directive that the Minister must do such and such on such and such a date. So, then it falls off. It does not fall under Rule 123. We will then agree to the motion.

Agreed to.

THE SUCCESSFUL FOURTH AFRICAN YOUTH KUNGFU CHAMPIONSHIP HELD

(Draft Resolution)

Mrs E N NTLANGWINI: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) notes the successful Fourth African Youth Kungfu Championship held at Fairbairn College in Cape Town from 25 until 26 April 2026;

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- (2) further notes that teams from Botswana, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Zambia participated in the annual event;
- (3) acknowledges that South African Chin Woo Kung Fu, also fondly known as the #BlitzFus won the championship with 16 gold medals;
- (4) further acknowledges that the team from Zimbabwe finished in second place with six gold medals, with Zambia and Botswana tied for third place with three medals each;
- (5) recognises the dedication of World Champion, Shifu Muhammad Junaid Chafeker, in organising the annual championship;
- (6) recalls Shifu Muhammad Junaid Chafeker, also known as M J Li is a Hall of Fame Inductee for his dedication in developing the sport in South Africa; and

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- (7) sends its warm regards to the #BlitzFus, and in particular their coach Muhammad Junaid Chafeker for flying the South African flag high.

Agreed to.

**THE ARREST OF EIGHT OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOME
AFFAIRS**

(Draft Resolution)

Ms N E MTOLO: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) notes the arrest of eight officials from the Department of Home Affairs in April 2026 in connection with allegations of corruption, fraud and the abuse of state systems for their personal benefits;
- (2) acknowledges and welcomes the work of law enforcement agencies in acting decisively against

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crime in government, and for showing commitment to clean governance, accountability and the rule of law;

- (3) further acknowledges that corruption within critical departments such as Home Affairs damages national security, reduces public trust, weakens service delivery and goes against the values of our Constitution;
- (4) condemns in the strongest terms such acts; and
- (5) calls on all government institutions and members of the public to stay alert and report all forms of corruption or wrongdoing to the relevant authorities.

Agreed to.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MOOLMAN GROUP AND THE CITY OF
UMHLATHUZE**

(Draft Resolution)

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Mr T M LANGA: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) congratulates the Moolman group and the City of uMhlathuze on the opening of Prince Buthelezi Mall in Empangeni;
- (2) remembers that the centre, formerly known as Greenhills Mall, has been renamed in honour of Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi and stands as a tribute to his enduring legacy of leadership and commitment to community upliftment;
- (3) acknowledges that economic freedom and community development were central to the work of Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi;
- (4) recognises that in a tough economic climate, since opening, the mall has already begun to make a meaningful impact, creating over 1 200 jobs and introducing a new level of accessibility, convenience and choice for the surrounding communities; and

- (5) congratulates the Moolman group and the City of uMhlathuze for preserving the legacy of Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi with creating jobs.

Agreed to.

THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OF YOUNG DARREL BOTES

(Draft Resolution)

Ms J S PETERSON: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) notes with great pride the outstanding achievement of young Darrel Botes from Pella in the Northern Cape, who was crowned the Under-19 South African 100m champion;
- (2) recognises his astonishing personal best performance of an unconfirmed 10,42 seconds, a time that places him among the most promising young sprinters in the country;

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- (3) congratulates Darrel for bringing honour to his community and serving as an inspiration to the youth of rural South Africa, proving that talent, discipline, and determination can overcome all barriers; and
- (4) supports and celebrates young athletes like Darrel Botes, whose achievements uplift their communities and showcase the full potential of our nation.

Afrikaans:

Ons baiza nie.

English:

Don't ... [Inaudible.]

Agreed to.

THE LIFE AND EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF MIMI COERTSE

(Draft Resolution)

Dr C P MULDER: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

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That the House-

- (1) notes with deep appreciation the life and exceptional achievements of Mimi Coertse, one of South Africa's most distinguished operatic sopranos, who passed away on 27 April 2026;
- (2) further notes that she enjoyed an illustrious international career, most notably at the Vienna State Opera, where she performed in more than 400 productions over nearly two decades, earning acclaim for her technical brilliance and artistic excellence;
- (3) acknowledges that she received numerous prestigious honours, including being awarded the title of Kammersängerin in Austria, one of the highest recognitions for an opera singer, as well as South African honours such as the Order for Meritorious Service and the Order of Ikhamanga for her outstanding contribution to music and culture;

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- (4) recognises her invaluable contribution to the development of the arts in South Africa, and
- (5) expresses its sincere gratitude and admiration for her enduring legacy, which continues to inspire generations of South Africans.

Agreed to.

STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH CARE IN SOUTH AFRICA

(Draft Resolution)

Dr T K S LETLAPE: House Chair, I hereby move without notice:

That the House

- (1) notes with alarm the deeply troubling state of public health care in South Africa, as evidenced by recent incidents in Limpopo hospitals, which highlight severe delays, dysfunction and the failure of facilities to provide timely and adequate care to patients;

- (2) acknowledges that across the country, patients are routinely subjected to overcrowded hospitals, long waiting times, staff shortages and failing infrastructure - undermining their constitutional right to access quality health care;
- (3) recognises the grave concern at renal units, in particular, where patients in need of lifesaving dialysis treatment face limited capacity and delayed access, which places their lives at significant risk;
- (4) believes that these challenges are the direct result of prolonged mismanagement and, without urgent intervention, the collapse of specialised units such as renal care will have fatal consequences for the most vulnerable patients; and
- (5) calls on this House to prioritise the immediate strengthening of public health care services, including the expansion and proper resourcing of renal units, improved hospital management and strict

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accountability for officials who fail in their duties.

Agreed to.

SURGE IN PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

(Draft Resolution)

Mr S C SEKOATI: House Chairperson, I hereby move without notice:

That the House

- (1) notes the recent surge in private sector capital investment in South Africa, driven by ongoing structural reforms in the energy, freight logistics, and telecommunications sectors;
- (2) welcomes the commitments made in the state of the nation address, alongside key policy interventions such as Operation Vulindlela, the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan, and

infrastructure-led development programmes, which are yielding tangible results in restoring investor confidence;

(3) believes that these reforms are laying a firm foundation for inclusive economic growth, industrial expansion, and sustainable development, while enhancing the competitiveness of the South African economy;

(4) acknowledges that increased investment plays a critical role in the ongoing efforts of job creation, skills development and broad-based economic participation, particularly for young people and historically disadvantaged communities;

(5) further acknowledges the role of the government, social partners, and the private sector in working collaboratively to rebuild as well as transform the economy; and

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- (6) calls on all stakeholders to sustain this momentum in advancing growth, transformation, and shared prosperity.

Agreed to.

CONCERN OVER ILLEGAL DRUG TRADE IN SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNITIES

(Draft Resolution)

Mr W M THRING: House Chair, I hereby move without notice:

That the House

- (1) notes with grave concern the rapid increase in drug use and the proliferation of the illegal drug trade in communities across South Africa, which continues to destroy families, fuel violent crime, and undermine the social and economic fabric of our nation;
- (2) further notes that vulnerable communities, particularly the youth, are increasingly exposed to substance abuse, with devastating long-term

consequences for public health, safety, and development;

- (3) acknowledges the urgent need for a strengthened, co-ordinated, and intelligence-driven response from all law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities to combat the scourge of illegal drugs;
- (4) recognises that the persistence of drug syndicates is often enabled by weak enforcement, insufficient investigations, and failures to secure successful prosecutions;
- (5) calls on all crime-fighting agencies, including the SA Police Service and relevant prosecuting authorities, to intensify efforts to investigate, arrest, and successfully prosecute those involved in the manufacture, distribution, and sale of illegal drugs, without fear, favour, or prejudice; and
- (6) further calls for enhanced inter-agency collaboration, improved community policing initiatives, and stronger preventative and

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rehabilitation programmes to address both the supply and demand aspects of the drug crisis in South Africa.

Agreed to.

LAND TRANSFER WITHOUT SUPPORT

(Draft Resolution)

Ms M L MASEKO: House Chair, I hereby move without notice:

That the House

- (1) acknowledges that transferring land without adequate support is not reform but abandonment;
- (2) notes the increasing number of land reform projects that are failing due to limited finance, skills, and infrastructure;
- (3) further notes that millions of South Africans on communal land still lack secure, enforceable tenure rights;

- (4) recognises the need for a comprehensive audit of post-settlement support, and that land insecurity hampers investment, dignity, and economic involvement;
- (5) calls on the Portfolio Committee on Land Reform and Rural Development to: Oversee that a comprehensive, transparent audit of post-settlement support is conducted and ensure that the findings are presented to Parliament. This aims to prevent setting beneficiaries up to fail and instead to promote their success; and
- (6) assist in the implementation of concrete measures to ensure secure tenure rights, especially for historically disadvantaged groups such as women. Without secure tenure rights, land reform remains merely symbolic. This motion transcends politics. It focuses on restoring credibility, accountability, and effective delivery in a department that has promised much but achieved little.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): With those objections, the motion will then be converted to a Notice of Motion.

IsiZulu:

Mnu Z E MTHETHWA: Sihlalo, mangikhumbuze le Ndlu ukuthi uMntwana wakwaPhindangene noBaba u-Mandela noBaba u-De Klerk bathembisa iSilo samaZulu ukuthi lokhu kuzoba ubukhosi obungokomthethosisekelo. Kuze kube yinamhlanje, asikaze sinikezwe leyo nto. Namandla aso ezinkantolo, uma sisho Amandla asisho iNkosi yaseNgilandi, asisho iNkosi yamaDashi, asisho futhi umfundisi omkhulu waseRoma, kodwa sisho amazulu lapha KwaZulu-Natal.

POLITICAL INTERFERENCE CONCERNS ON TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY LAND

(Draft Resolution)

Mr Z E MTHETHWA: Chairperson, I hereby move without notice:

That the House

- (1) notes the growing concerns raised by traditional leadership regarding continued political

interference in land held under customary systems, including land administered through the Ingonyama Trust;

- (2) further notes that millions of South Africans living under traditional authority remain excluded from meaningful control and custodianship of their land, despite constitutional commitments to dignity;
- (3) recognises the role of amakhosi and traditional institutions as legitimate custodians of communal land, accountable to their communities;
- (4) acknowledges that current legislative frameworks have, in practice, concentrated decision-making powers in boards and political offices, often without adequate consultation with traditional leaders; and
- (5) resolves that Parliament must urgently review all legislation affecting communal land to ensure that authority is restored to rightful custodians, communities are protected from political overreach,

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and land governance reflects the will and lived realities of the people.

Agreed to.

**MAY DAY 2026 CELEBRATIONS AMID ONGOING CHALLENGES IN SOUTH
AFRICA**

(Draft Resolution)

Mr C G NIEHAUS: Hon House Chair, I hereby move without notice:

That the House

- (1) note that May Day 2026 marked International Workers' Day amid ongoing challenges of high unemployment, particularly among the youth, and the continued struggles of the working class for economic freedom and dignity;
- (2) acknowledges the resilience and contributions of South African workers to the economy, including those in townships, mining, manufacturing, and emerging sectors such as renewable energy;

- (3) commends organised labour and communities for highlighting the need for radical economic transformation, job creation, and an end to inequality and exploitation;
- (4) conveys solidarity with all workers and the unemployed, calling on the nation to prioritise meaningful employment, as well as land and economic redistribution, to achieve true economic freedom in our lifetime; and
- (5) reminds the working class that, amid high fuel prices, indebtedness, and the rising cost of living, it is time to unite and recognise that only through solidarity can workers be victorious. As Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels declared in *The Communist Manifesto*, "Workers of all lands, unite!"

Agreed to.

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(Draft Resolution)

Mr N L S KWANKWA: House Chairperson, I hereby move without notice:

That the House

(1) congratulates the football legend Theophilus Doctor Khumalo for receiving an honorary doctorate at Tshwane University of Technology, in recognition of his exceptional talent and lifelong contribution to South African and international football;

(2) notes that Doctor Khumalo was awarded an honorary doctorate of Philosophy in Science, specialising in Kinesiology and Coaching Science, not only for his remarkable football career, but also for his unwavering commitment to developing and inspiring the future generation of players; ...

[Interjections.] ...

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Kwankwa, my apologies. I see a hand there. Just take your seat for a moment. Hon Michalakis, why do you want to be recognised?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: House Chair, on a point of order: My apologies to hon Kwankwa for doing that to him. I just want to enquire if members deviate from the motion that was circulated, adding on phrases and paragraphs. I rise again in terms of Rule 123(2)(vii), then surely that cannot be regarded as the motion that was circulated to the House if there are add-ons, and I would like your ruling in this case. If that is true, then certainly the motion the EFF has served just now cannot be regarded as having been circulated. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Michalakis, thank you for that intervention. However, you had an opportunity to object or, at that point in time, raise your concern.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: I had my hand up.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, you definitely did not. We have moved on. Hon Kwankwa, my apologies for the interruption. Please, proceed.

Mr N L S KWANKWA: Can we start from the beginning, because now it's chaotic? I do not even know where I was, Chair, ...

Afrikaans:

... asseblief?

English:

(3) remembers his outstanding career, having played over 400 matches for Kaizer Chiefs between 1986 and 2002, and more than 50 caps for Bafana Bafana, where he helped shape the identity of the national team on the international stage;

(4) further remembers his role in the historic 1996 Africa Cup of Nations victory, as well as his participation in the 1998 Fifa World Cup;

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- (5) recalls that he remains one of South Africa's greatest footballers, and a highly respected coach, talent scout and football analyst; and
- (6) acknowledge this honour cements his legacy beyond the field of play. Mntungwa [Khumalo clan name] will forever be remembered as an Amakhosi [Kaizer Chiefs nickname] legend who brought immense joy to millions of South African football-loving people, and as a true icon of the beautiful game of football.

Agreed to.

COMMEMORATING WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY 2026

(Draft Resolution)

Mr S I SUBRATHIE: House Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes that World Press Freedom Day is annually observed on 3 May to inform the international

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community that freedom of the press and freedom of expression are fundamental human rights;

(2) further notes that this day reminds people that many journalists brave death or face jail to bring daily news to the public;

(3) understands that the day gives people the chance to pay tribute to media professionals who risked or lost their lives in the line of duty;

(4) further understands that the theme for World Press Freedom Day this year is "Shaping a Future at Peace: Promoting Press Freedom for Human Rights, Development and Security"; and

(5) calls on all to recognise that press freedom is not merely and solely a media concern, but a vital democratic principle that serves and benefits everyone.

Agreed to.

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ADVOCATE TEMBEKA NGCUKAITOBI ACTING JUDGE TO THE
CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

(Draft Resolution)

Dr M A MAIMANE: House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes the recent appointment of Advocate Tembeka Ngcukaitobi as an acting judge to the Constitutional Court;
- (2) recognises his exceptional contribution as a jurist;
- (3) also recognises the importance of maintaining the independence, integrity and credibility of the judiciary;
- (4) affirms that judicial appointments must always uphold constitutional principles, including transparency and public confidence; and

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- (5) calls for continued adherence to due diligence in all judicial appointments to safeguard the rule of law.

Agreed to.

SINESIPHO DAMBILE WINS 200M AT KIP KEINO CLASSIC 2026

(Draft Resolution)

Mr W T LETSIE: House Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes that South Africa's Sinesipho Dambile produced a lifetime best to claim the men's 200m at the 2026 Kip Keino Classic in Nairobi on Friday, 24 April 2026;
- (2) further notes that the 24-year-old upset Jamaica's world bronze medallist Bryan Levell with a stunning run at the 2026 World Athletics Continental Tour Gold, dipping at the line in a time of 19,77 seconds;

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- (3) understands that Dambile chopped 0,20 seconds off his previous personal best, launching himself into second place in South Africa's all-time list;
- (4) remembers that he made a triumphant return to Nairobi, where he won the bronze medal in the half-lap event at the 2021 World Athletics U20 Championships; and
- (5) extends its congratulations to Dambile on his much-deserved victory.

Agreed to.

UCT RESPONDS TO OPEN LETTER OBJECTING IMTIAZ SOOLIMAN HONORARY

DOCTORATE

(Draft Resolution)

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) acknowledges the University of Cape Town's vice-chancellor Mosa Mashabela's justification of awarding an honorary doctorate to Gift of the Givers founder Dr Imtiaz Sooliman;
- (2) further acknowledges that Mashabela responded to an open letter from more than 300 alumni, staff, students and donors who condemned the honorary doctorate as out of step with the university's values;
- (3) notes that those who raised objections to the honorary doctorate are opposed to Sooliman's pro-Palestine stance and accuse him of antisemitism;
- (4) also notes the university's response to the objections is that the honorary doctorate was based on Sooliman's long record of humanitarian work, delivering aid in crises across South Africa and beyond; and

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- (5) lastly notes that humanitarian work reflects the university's commitment to public service and engaged citizenship.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members, I put the motion. Are there any objections?

Mr S N SWART: The ACDP objects.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): With that objection, this motion will be converted into a notice of motion.

SOUTH AFRICA WITH UNTAPPED POTENTIAL FOR AGRI-TOURISM

(Draft Resolution)

Ms E LINDE: House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes that tourism remains the key driver of job creation and that South Africa has untapped

potential for Agri-tourism, including farm stays, wine and food tourism;

- (2) acknowledges that while Agri-tourism can stimulate rural economies by supporting small, medium and micro enterprises, SMMEs, local producers, emerging farmers and hospitality services, it remains poorly coordinated and underdeveloped due to infrastructure challenges, safety concerns and limited marketing support;
- (3) also acknowledges that Agri-tourism can unlock inclusive growth and sustainable jobs in rural South Africa; and
- (4) encourages the Minister of Tourism again to establish a dedicated Agri-tourism programme within the department, with measurable targets, and to work with the relevant departments and provinces to develop and promote Agri-tourism routes, expand skills development, and support rural enterprises.

Agreed to.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): The NCC?

If not, the ANC.

Dr M A MAIMANE: House Chairperson, I think they are held up at the moment.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you, hon Maimane, but they have more than one member.

The ANC?

PROTEAS WOMEN BEAT INDIA IN FIRST OF FIVE T20

(Draft Resolution)

Ms M L MMOLOTSANE: House Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes that the Proteas women's team secured a landmark 4-1 series victory, defeating India's women

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team in a five-match T20I series concluded on 27 April 2026;

- (2) further notes the Proteas women won the 5th T20I by 23 runs in Benoni;
- (3) acknowledges that Captain Laura Wolvaardt was named player of the series, scoring 330 runs – the most by a woman in any T20I bilateral series – including an unbeaten 92 off 56 balls in the final match and a record-breaking 115 off 53 balls in the third T20I;
- (4) further acknowledges that the victory showcased dominant batting and disciplined bowling from players like Nonkululeko Mlaba and Nadine de Klerk, marking a high point for South African cricket on the global stage; and
- (5) congratulates the Proteas women’s team and wishes them well in their upcoming matches in the ICC Women’s T20 World Cup in England in June 2026.

Agreed to.

UAT AND LESEDI PATHWAYS DISTRIBUTE 50 WHEELCHAIRS AT FANANG

DIATLA CRECHE IN LIMPOPO

(Draft Resolution)

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Hon House Chairperson, please allow me to seat. I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes and celebrates the recent collaboration initiative between the UAT Persons with Disabilities Front and Lesedi Pathways who, on 1 April 2026, distributed 50 wheelchairs at Fanang Diatla Creche in Ward 27, Ga-Mathabatha in Limpopo;
- (2) also notes that this decisive and meaningful intervention held in the spirit of Ubuntu and Pan-African solidarity, affirms UAT's commitment to serving the destitute, orphans, and widows – enriching lives through dignity, accessibility and transformative service delivery; and

- (3) acknowledges the UAT and Lesedi Pathways for their leadership and unwavering commitment in the spirit of Ubuntu.

Agreed to.

SOUTH AFRICANS FACING ESCALATING COST OF LIVING

(Draft Resolution)

Ms Z S ABADER: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes the escalating cost of living facing South Africans, driven by rising fuel prices, increasing food costs, and growing financial pressure on households;
- (2) further notes that fuel price increases are significantly driven by government-imposed taxes and levies, which continue to burden the working class and the poor;

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- (3) acknowledges that millions of South Africans are forced to choose between transport, food and other basic necessities;
- (4) recognises that with local government elections approaching, promises will once again be made to address these challenges without tackling their root causes and resolves that; and
- (5) calls on Parliament to urgently review the fuel price structure, including taxes and levies, to provide immediate relief to struggling households.

Agreed to.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, it would seem, in your party, the left hand doesn't know what the right hand will be doing. You sought earlier an opportunity to introduce this matter and now your party has found a way.

MILLIONS SPENT ON SUSPENDED PUBLIC SERVANTS

(Draft Resolution)

Ms E R J SPIES: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes with alarm reports that approximately R800 million of taxpayers' money is spent annually on salaries of suspended public servants;
- (2) further notes that hundreds of officials remain on precautionary suspension far beyond the prescribed 90-day period, with some cases dragging on for years without resolution;
- (3) acknowledges that this reflects a systemic failure of accountability and discipline within the public service;
- (4) recognises that this wasteful expenditure comes at the expense of frontline service delivery to South Africans; and
- (5) calls on the Portfolio Committee on Public Service and Administration to implore the Minister to

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urgently account to Parliament to take immediate steps to ensure that disciplinary processes are concluded within strict timeframes and that those responsible for delays are held accountable.

Agreed to.

PASSING OF LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO MEMBER MR ALBERT MAZIBUKO

(Draft Resolution)

Mr G D KGABO: Hon House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes with profound sadness the passing on of Albert Mazibuko, referred as the “wise elder” of Ladysmith Black Mambazo;
- (2) acknowledges his enormous contribution to South African music and cultural heritage through the global success of Ladysmith Black Mambazo, whose

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musical sound carried the spirit and resilience of our people across the world;

- (3) recognises his role as a custodian of indigenous musical traditions particularly isicathamiya, and as a mentor who guided generations of artists with humility and wisdom;
- (4) believes that his legacy will continue to inspire unity, discipline, and cultural pride amongst South Africans and the broader international community;
- (5) conveys its heartfelt condolences to his family, fellow group members, friends, and all those whose lives he touched through his artistry; and
- (6) honours his life as a towering figure in the preservation and promotion of South Africa's rich cultural identity.

Agreed to.

NOTICES OF MOTION

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Ms P P XABA-NTSHABA: Hon Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

That the House debates prioritising the professionalisation of the public sector and ensuring that suitable, qualified and capable people are always appointed to the right position.

Ms K L KHAUKHAU: Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the DA:

That the House-

- (1) debates the value and effectiveness of sector education and training authorities in realising tangible skills development, job creation and economic growth; and
- (2) notes that sector education and training authority, Setas, continues to fail South Africa's youth. They

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undermine government skills development objectives and are quite frankly a waste of this country's taxpayers' money.

Mr J S NGUBANE: Hon Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the MK:

That the House-

- (1) debates the risk of dual citizenship being allowed willy-nilly by the Department of Home Affairs to occur. One risk example is that at the rate we are moving, one day we might wake up with a South African President who lives elsewhere, none other than South Africa;
 - (2) notes that the allegiance to the country where you stay and pay taxes be the guide or priority and other important factors for consideration of this;
- and

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- (3) calls on the Department of Home Affairs to prioritise people who are affected and impacted by service delivery and political environment of the country where they reside for many aspects of political involvement, and that allegiance to South Africa as a country and its flag form part of swearing in or confirmation to the allegiance to your country.

Mr M N PAULSEN: House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the EFF:

- (1) That the House debates water crisis facing our hospitals and clinics, including Settlers Hospital in Makhanda Local Municipality which has been without water since 26 April 2026; and
- (2) notes that this poses a serious risk to patients and workers and it is not the only hospitals facing this crisis of inhumane conditions with dysfunctional toilets because of a lack of water.

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Mr P NDAMASE: Hon House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

That the House debates greater involvement of traditional leaders in local governments to foster co-operation in improving service delivery and responsiveness.

Mr S S ZONDO: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the IFP:

That the House debates the urgent co-ordination and measurable implementation are required to the meaningful address to social economic challenges confronting South Africa.

Mr M V DANIELS: Hon House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the PA:

That the House-

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- (1) debates with concern that most if not all government forums and programmes offering training and job opportunities imposes an age limit of 35 years;
- (2) further notes that such restrictions amount to age discrimination excluding skilled and capable individuals who remain economically active and willing to contribute to the growth and the development of our nation;
- (3) strongly opposes these discriminatory practices and calls on government to review and amend all policies and programmes to ensure inclusivity, fairness and equal opportunities for all South Africans regardless of their ages; and
- (4) emphasises that as the PA, ons baiza nie [we don't stand back!]

Mr P A VAN STADEN: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the FF Plus:

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That the House debates the high amount of legal cost within the Department of Health, the court cases that is ongoing in respect of a National Health Insurance as well as medical legal claims, and for Parliament to address the current high legal cost on the NHI and measures to combat medical legal claims.

Ms M P KOBE: House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the DA:

That the House debates the far-reaching fiscal consequences arising from the recent judgement of the Supreme Court of Appeal against the Road Accident Fund with a potential exposure of the national fiscal liabilities estimated at approximately R180 billion due to unlawfully rejected claims and the fund's broader financial instability which may see total liabilities exceeding R500 billion.

Ms R C ADAMS: Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

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That the House debates implementing strategies to strengthen the teaching of mathematics at all great levels with particular emphasis on the foundation phase.

Mr S N SWART: House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the ACDP:

That the House debates the state of South African ports and whether they are able to efficiently handle and benefit from increased marine traffic as ships reroute around South Africa to avoid the dangerous Red Sea and Suez Canal routes.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY (Mr G Michalakis): House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the DA:

That the House-

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- (1) debates the brutal killing of Sergio and Marlene Gomes in Mahikeng has once again exposed the harsh reality of violent crime in our country; and

- (2) further debates solutions to fix the police, strengthening accountability within the SA Police Service, SAPS, ensuring regular competency assessments, lifestyle audits, strict consequence management for misconduct, expansion of policing powers to competent provinces and metros and the need to strengthen specialised units such as anti-gang units, rural safety units and units protecting women and children so that they are properly resourced and able to do their work effectively.

Mr G TAAIBOSH: I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the MK:

That the House debates the state of local government in South Africa ahead of the upcoming local government elections and further that Parliament considers urgent measures to address service delivery failures, collapsing

infrastructure and governance challenges affecting municipalities across the country.

Ms L H ARRIES: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the EFF:

That the House-

- (1) debates the impact of food-and-mouth disease on farmers and the necessary interventions and compensation to support affected farmers and community as farmers across South Africa are suffering devastating losses as a result of the outbreak of food and milk disease, and livestock has perished and many farmers - particularly small scale and emerging farmers, have lost their primary source of income; and
- (2) notes that restrictions imposed to contain the disease, including culling and movement controls, have placed severe financial pressure on farming

communities and threatened food security and rural livelihoods.

Ms C T NONTENJA: House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the UDM:

That the House-

- (1) debates the ongoing environmental and governance concerns surrounding the continued discharge of untreated sewage into the Vaal River by Mfuleni Local Municipality as the municipality is currently facing seven criminal charges in the magistrate's court relating to water pollution and breaches of environmental legislation; and
- (2) calls for an urgent Parliamentary oversight and intervention within municipalities to ensure compliance with environmental laws and to prevent further harm to the national water supply.

Mr M NONTSELE: House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

That the House debates social compacting, which is the strengthening of partnership between government and nongovernmental organisations on advancing national priorities.

Mrs N L HLAZO-WEBSTER: House Chair, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the BOSA:

That the House-

- (1) debates the introduction of the Employment Equity Amendment Bill 2026 introduced by BOSA and that the House further notes that the Bill seeks to promote remuneration transparency and prohibit the use of past or current remuneration in determining pay; and
- (2) notes the growing public interest and engagement with the Bill including responses from media, civil

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society and broader public discourse and welcomes provisions requiring the disclosure of remuneration ranges in recruitment processes and that the House calls for public comment on the Bill.

Ms R C ADAMS (ANC): I hereby move that at its next sitting, the House debates the role of sports and the arts in fostering social cohesion and strengthening the national brand. I thank you.

Ms S SINGH (DA): Hon House Chairperson, on behalf of the DA, I move that at its next sitting, the House debates the Minister of Small Business Development's failure to remove broad-based black economic empowerment, BBBEE, requirements for small businesses and align her department's programmes with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs, as recommended by the report of the portfolio committee of 27 June 2025. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mrs T M CHAUKE-ADONIS (ANC): I move on behalf of the ANC that in its next sitting, the House debates on the issues of ensuring accountability measures and consequence management for us to address those who are not complying with laws and

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regulations that seek to advance inclusion for persons with disabilities, understanding that all spheres of government and the private sector must have accountability, understanding that there are systematic barriers that discriminate and exclude persons with disabilities from accessing equal education, access to economic opportunities, access to education, access to employment opportunities, and contributing towards the economy. And therefore, we move that this be debated in the House, that we look into ensuring that we strengthen the accountability and consequence management of ensuring that government and the private sector are held accountable. Thank you very much.

Dr L W MAHLATSI (UAT): Chairperson, please allow me to sit. I move on behalf of the UAT that this House, in its next sitting, debates the urgent matter of the deteriorating condition of the Department of Correctional Services. This motion is prompted by the persistent report of inhumane conditions and systematic neglect of correctional facilities, particularly Kgosi Mampuru II Correctional Centre, reflecting the violation of the Correctional Services Act and the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. I so move.

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Mr G MOTAUNG (MK): House Chair, I hereby give notice that I shall move on behalf of the MK Party that on the next sitting of the House, that the House must debate on the role and regulations of foreign-owned businesses that are operating in our own local government community, and further that the Parliament must consider measures to ensure compliance with South African laws, fair competition, and protect of local economic participation. Spaza shop must be reserved for South African citizens. This is not about exclusion. It is about economic justice. [Applause.]

Mr C HATTINGH (DA): On behalf of the DA, I hereby move that the House at its next sitting debates the lack of security measures at our military bases, as recently seen at the SANDF facility at Tek Base Pretoria, where R4 rifles and grenade launchers were stolen. This not only shows the systemic collapse in basic security and accountability of our security forces but also poses a direct threat to public safety and our national security. I so move. [Applause.]

Ms S P JAMA (ANC): I move on behalf of the ANC that at the next sitting the House debates incorporating lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and cholera outbreak in building

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resilient, accessible, and quality health care services in responding to future disasters. I thank you.

The House adjourned at 19:12.

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