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MINI PLENARY - NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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PROCEEDINGS OF HYBRID MINIPLenary

Members of the mini-plenary session met at Committee Room M46 at 14:00.

House Chairperson Mr W Horn took the Chair and requested members to observe a moment of silence for prayer or meditation.

APPROPRIATION BILL

Debate on Vote No 39 - Trade, Industry and Competition:

The MINISTER OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION: House Chairperson, Deputy Ministers, hon members, social partners in the gallery, distinguished guests, and ladies and gentlemen.

As we celebrate Africa Month, the African Union, AU's commemorative theme entitled, "Unity, Integration and Development", resonates with the Department of Trade, Industry

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and Competition, DTIC's Budget Vote 39, centred as it is on transformation as a moral, constitutional and economic imperative for everyone in the country.

We readily admit that the local and international context in which we are operating is complex and very challenging. The global environment has been deeply unsettled by the ongoing Middle East War and its associated disruptions to supply chains of energy, fertilizers and petrochemicals.

As a net oil importer, South Africa faces real recessionary risks and threats to our industrial competitiveness.

Amidst these headwinds and as this budget vote will indicate, we are turning the corner as a country, and as the DTIC, our work remains central to this momentum.

As we turn the corner guided by the portfolio committee, I would like to acknowledge and thank the Chair of the Portfolio Committee, hon Mzwandile Masina for helping us to remain on course.

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Budget Vote 39 is a living testimony that it is possible to work together and build a stable DTIC family that protects industry as we face headwinds.

In his 2026 State of the nation address, His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa told the nation:

We are working to revive growth by creating conditions for firms to invest by maintaining a clear and stable Macro-Economic Framework, investing in infrastructure that works, creating a conducive regulatory framework that supports growth and enables competition, and a focused and forward-looking industrial policy.

Our policy environment is consistent and forward-looking. Cabinet recently adopted the Industrial Development Strategy which directs the country's industrial policy agenda. This strategy recognises that the structure of South Africa's economy is transforming. We are clear that this strategy is about:

Firstly, positioning South Africa as a leading player in the green economy. Secondly, implementing a forward-looking

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industrial policy that creates jobs. And thirdly, using trade policy to support export resilience and growth.

Our pathways of decarbonisation, diversification, and digitalisation anchor the Industrial Development Strategy thereby reflecting the reality that South Africa cannot compete in the world of the future using the tools of the past.

Under the leadership of the Director-General, DG, Mr Simphiwe Hamilton, I would like to thank Dr Tebogo Makube, Ms Zukiswa Kimani, Mr Fanie Gagiano and Ms Pamela Mondliwa for their tireless work in pulling together the Industrial Development Strategy, IDS.

Hon members, allow me to paint a picture demonstrating partnership. On Africa: It is this Parliament that approved South Africa's ascension as a sovereign member of the Afreximbank, thus unlocking investment opportunities.

On the European Union, EU: The EU trading and investment partnership and the Global Gateway initiative are starting to bear fruits with EU investment in clean energy and in the

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pharmaceutical sector. This financial instrument is benefiting several provinces including the three Cape Provinces in the context of transitioning to our green hydrogen ambitions. These include projects in Prieska, Coega and Saldhana Bay.

On the United States of America, USA: to date African Growth and Opportunity Act, AGOA is extended resulting in the protection of jobs. I must also emphasise that when one clears through the noise, our trade with the US remains strong. Exports from South Africa have increased from R238 billion in 2024 to R260 billion in 2025 with over 89% of these under the most favoured nation principle.

On China: South Africa has begun trading under the China-Africa Economic Partnership Agreement Framework and as of 1st May 2026, we enjoy duty-free access to the 1,4 billion strong market in targeted sectors. Our aim is to change the composition of trade with China from exports comprised mainly of commodities to significantly increasing manufactured and value-added products.

On Mercado Común del Sur, MERCOSUR: Our preferential trade agreement remains one of the most significant areas of

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potential expansion. We are finding areas of interest for South African exporters and are working on complementarities with our South American counterparts.

On the Gulf Cooperation Council, GCC: We are unlocking investments in agriculture, oil and gas, mining, capital equipment and chemical equipment with members of the GCC.

Hon members, crossroads are not places to collapse, they are places of choice. It is against this backdrop that we are reminded of the words of Ambassador Nozipho Mxakato-Diseko, former co-chair of the United Nations, UN, Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals when she said:

South Africa must approach its critical minerals with the wisdom of a father guarding the future of the most beautiful bride in the village. These minerals are not assets to be handed over to the first bidder at the gate, but a national inheritance to be stewarded with care, strategy and purpose.

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In this way, our critical minerals become a platform for inclusive growth, green industrialisation, innovation and the circular economy.

We are reviewing our Automotive Production Development Plan, with a view to stimulate new investments in South Africa and supporting the growth of our component manufacturers.

The work of the DTIC in implementing localisation is evident in the R86,6 billion in locally manufactured goods and services procured in the 2025-26 financial year. For this current financial year, our target is R100 billion in localisation. This is possible through collaboration with our social partners.

With regards to the systemic challenge of dealing with the illicit economy, which costs the South African economy an estimated R700 billion equating to roughly 10% of gross domestic product, GDP, critical intervention is being made by one of our entities, the National Consumer Commission. As a measure to protect consumers from illicit trade in the economy, in this financial year, we will publish a track-and-trace mechanism on goods. The mechanism will mainly

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target illicit trade in tobacco, alcohol, food, and consumer appliances.

Transformation as a moral, constitutional and economic imperative is evident in our investment drive. The 2026 South African Investment Conference secured the highest-ever value of investment commitments since its establishment in 2018.

Domestic firms led the charge, with two-thirds of investments coming from South African companies, which signalled a strong confidence in the local economy. That is domestic confidence!

The conference formally launched South Africa's second investment mobilisation drive, targeting R3 trillion in new investment by 2030. In the 2025-26 financial year alone, the DTIC secured R647 billion in investment against an annual target of R450 billion.

Transformation as a moral, constitutional and economic imperative is evident in our spatial development initiatives. Despite the challenging global trading environment, the country's Special Economic Zone, SEZ, Programme continues to make a meaningful contribution towards attracting fixed

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capital investments. To date spatial transformation efforts have resulted in 224 operational Investments to the value of more than R31 billion resulting in 28 821 active jobs created. And Deputy Minister Godlimpi will elaborate on the work of our SEZ programme.

Ladies and gentlemen, as we work to address the imbalances of the past as demanded by our predecessors, we are creating development finance institutions that return to their industrial development mandates, while simultaneously creating a conducive regulatory environment aimed at reducing the cost of doing business.

The Export Credit Insurance Corporation is partnering on an investment drive with South Africa's five biggest banks which will improve export financing by scaling export risk insurance cover, supporting outward investment on the continent and supporting industrialisation.

In the steel sector, for instance, the Industrial Development Corporation, IDC, is taking strategic steps to stabilize the industry, which is vital for our broader manufacturing base.

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Meanwhile, the ferrochrome support package is breathing new life into plants that had been struggling under cost pressures. The NEF, National Empowerment Fund, for example, has supported hundreds of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, MSMEs, with a strong focus on black industrialists and women-led enterprises.

Lastly, strengthening our technical infrastructure institutions is saving lives, protecting our economy and building industries. Our entities are playing a pivotal role in reshaping the economy, moving beyond isolated interventions to become catalysts for structural change.

The National Gambling Board is strengthening enforcement, working with partners like the Financial Intelligence Centre and National Student Financial Aid Scheme, NSFAS, to protect consumers and ensure that growth never comes at the expense of our people.

A Verified Operators Web Portal has been established - giving the public a reliable, centralised list of licensed operators across South Africa. We are also advancing the National Gambling Amendment Bill to give national government enhanced

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powers to tackle illegal online gambling, address advertising proliferation, and enforce consistent standards across provincial boundaries.

The Competition Commission, through its merger and settlement interventions, through them we have committed R42 billion to economic transformation, including R40,8 billion in supplier and procurement commitments. The work of the commission has saved in excess of 11,000 jobs.

A landmark study conducted by the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment, B-BBEE Commission in partnership with the Advisory Council and the Competition Commission - assessing over 28,000 certificates across a decade - confirms that B-BBEE compliance steadily increased following the 2013 amendments.

Black ownership achievement rose from 50% of target in 2013 to 86% in 2023. Enterprise and Supplier Development rose from 19% to 66%. And skills Development from 17% to 61%.

Yesterday I visited the Biovac Institute which is a public-private partnership that is black-owned, managed and

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controlled and has become a world class vaccine manufacturing facility.

The funding raised through various DFIs, Development Finance Institutions, will see Biovac expand its end-to-end vaccine manufacturing facility in Cape Town, enabling it to produce up to 40 million vaccines ready for global export.

Ladies and gentlemen, in conclusion, the resilient spirit of South Africans to never give up or give in when facing challenges, both local and international, can never be underestimated.

The DTIC and its entities have been entrusted with consolidated resources amounting to approximately R130,6 billion over the medium term to advance South Africa's industrialisation, economic transformation, and investment agenda. South Africans can be assured that we will guard these resources as would the father of the most beautiful bride in the village.

I would like to thank Deputy Minister Zuko Godlimpi and Deputy Minister Alexandra Abrahams for their continued support. I

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would also like to our DGs, our heads all entities and staff at the DTIC family. I hereby table the Budget Vote 39 for the 2026-2027 financial year. I thank you.

Mr M C MASINA: Chairperson, let me greet the Minister and the Deputy Ministers and all our invited guests. I present the report of the Portfolio Committee on Trade, Industry and Competition on Budget 39 for 2026-27 financial year. This marks the committee's third Budget Vote report in the seventh administration.

The seventh administration has over the past period been able to influence fundamental changes on issues of policy transformation and industry specific interventions. This was necessary to reorientate the discourse broadly and to ensure robust oversight role of the portfolio committee within the ecosystem.

Indeed, it's been a journey of an uncompromising moment to assert our oversight authority and to ensure that it is if properly aligned between the Department and its entities and the portfolio committee, more work can be done.

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank the leadership of the Minister Parks Tau and his Deputy Ministers for ensuring that we fully commit to bringing about the new vision whilst at the same time appreciating the dynamic role and the full compliance of the oversight role.

Let me start by giving feedback on some of the work undertaken by the committee over the past period just to give effect to our new work. The committee engaged with the banking sector on its credit lending practices and the levels of the transformation. It noted that it was reported that the transformation levels in the banking sector were relatively high, but the impact therefore was not necessarily very effective at the grassroots level.

Hence, there was a need for us to for banking sector to consider solution to improve the availability of credit for productive and developmental purposes. A comprehensive report will soon be tabled in Parliament on how we hope to proceed with this work so that we can hold the banking sector accountable.

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We also extensively interacted with the auto sector where we discussed a number of critical issues including the global trading environment and the imposition of tariffs, global transition from internal combustion engine to electric vehicles and cheaper vehicles import particularly of the completely built units, CBU, as well as the semi-knocked down kits, SKU.

In this regard, the committee supports the policy review to ensure that we accelerate localisation as stated by the Minister as well as issues of transformation across the industry and we call upon the Minister to ensure that we cushion this particular industry as it goes through these difficult times.

The committee also interacted with the steel sector and introduced different master plan, and we are looking closely in terms of how we're dealing with these issues of master plan and we are saying that the failure by the state-owned companies and government department entities to drive demand for local steel is creating a problem in this regard.

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We have made a call to the department and the team together that we must make sure that the steel sector is safe in South Africa and we are happy with the briefing that we are receiving from the Minister and the team.

We've met and interacted with the film sector and we're confident that the Minister will make sure that as we move forward this particular sector is protected. We have interacted with the oil and gas sector, and some progress has been made by the Minister of Transport and we thank her for continuously engaging to ensure that this transformation in this specific sector.

We are saying moving forward, having met with the airlines industry, we're happy with some of the results that are beginning to come up in terms of ensuring that we can foster transformation and I think that the findings by the NCC as reported recently is encouraging that we can hold the private sector accountable where it matters most.

Hon members, what we will be doing moving forward is to ensure that we can hold the department accountable in terms of its annual performance plan, APP, as presented to us as the

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portfolio committee and we have no doubt that over time, the work that we've been able to do together will help us yield some positive results.

As I move towards the conclusion, I want to say that we are unflinching with regard to issues of transformation. We are going to make sure that transformation happens in South Africa. Those who obstinate against transformation, must know that we'll be relentless to ensure that we can achieve greater empowerment in the country and we commend the Minister and the department in ensuring that the Transformation Fund is finally launched and we think that the resources that are coming from Afreximbank and other institutions will assist us a great deal in dealing with the issues of this sector and we are going to be supporting future industries including the green industries like the electronic vehicles, EVs, and so forth in ensuring that we can make this sector work.

The work should continue especially on those depressed industries like sugar, steel to ensure that there's greater interaction on our part and we're able to save those industries. As the ANC, we support this Budget 39.

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I thank you.

Mr A NCHABELENG: Hon Chair, it's the hon Nchabeleng standing in for the hon Gama. Hon Chair, hon Minister, hon members, I greet you. I rise on behalf of the MK Party to reject the comforting fiction that this government is searing South Africa towards economic recovery.

Our streets are showing us the example that our people are fed up with illegal immigration, and something must be done. The truth is, harsher. Under President Cyril Ramaphosa, a part-time buffalo and Ankole farmer, South Africa suffered the weakest economic growth and recovery and we are told to be patient. We are told the reforms are coming. We are told the president inherited a crisis.

Today, we are told there was a COVID-19 crisis, but the people of South Africa do not live under excuses. They live with unemployment. They live with de-industrialisation. They live with a collapsing infrastructure. They live with hunger. They live with rising exclusion, and they live with an economy that has been left to drift.

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Hon members, if economic management must be judged by outcomes, then this administration stands condemned by evidence. Growth has remained weak, investment has remained inadequate, manufacturing capacity has not been rebuilding the scale that is required and unemployment remains a national crisis. Young people in particular have been locked out of productive economic life.

Small businesses are suffocating. Industrial policy is becoming long on slogans and short on transformation. This Budget Vote comes before us in a country where the productive base of the economy is under severe strain.

Energy insecurity has undermined industrial expansion. Logistic collapse has crippled exports, delayed inputs and raised costs to producers. Freight rail failures, odd inefficiencies and the deterioration of strategic state institutions have all combined to weaken the very foundation on which trade and industry depend on.

And yet, political establishment continues to market this period as one of reform. Hon Chair, let us speak honestly about the politics of economic denarrative. Former president

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Jacob Zuma is constantly blamed for every weakness in South Africa's economy, while President Ramaphosa is endlessly excused for almost every worsening indicator under his direct control. This is not neutral analysis. This is selective politics. It is elite managed narratives designed to protect some and condemn others.

When President Zuma took office in 2009, the world had just been hit by the most serious global financial crisis in generations. South Africa's recession was not created in a Nkandla. It was unfortunately imported from the collapse of the global finance and demand in the advanced economies.

Yet, that context is routinely erased when Zuma's record is discussed. What is also erased is that the post 2009 period saw major public and state-led infrastructure investment which helped cushion South Africans from the worst inefficiencies as well as the worst outcomes in number of major state-owned entities than during the period of 2014 to 2018.

Why has Transnet, Eskom, SA Airways, SAA, and Denel in many respects appeared more broken in the so-called cleanup era than in the years that endlessly denounced the peak period of

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capture? Why has freight rail collapsed further? Why has ports deteriorated further? And why has state industrial capacity weakened further? You can come and give the speech.

The answer is simple. The dominant political narrative is not complete economic collapse. It is a weapon. It was used to force a political outcome. It was used to accelerate Zuma's exit, and it was used to install the leadership project more acceptable to the establishment, to big businesses, and to the ... [Inaudible.] ... as well as those who consume elite approval with national progress.

Let us say what many are afraid to say. Zuma was never judged only on policy. He was judged socially, culturally, and politically. He was treated as an outsider to the elite respectively, as an uneducated man who could not be allowed legitimately in the commanding heights of the state to succeed.

In that environment, the state capture narrative became more than an anti-corruption platform. It became a regime change device within the ruling block. Hon members, this matters

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because economic policy is now shaped by the same ideological agenda.

We see it in the weakening of the developmental role of the state. We see it in the difference to private capital as the default engine of recovery. We see it in the retreat from decisive state-led industrialisation. We see it in the quite normalisation of privatisation by another name. And we see it in the failure to rebuild a coherent productive economy anchored in public investment, strategic coordination, and national industrial capacity.

At the Department of Trade and Industry and Competition, the central question should be this, where is the industrial transformation that changes the conditions of our people?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members on the virtual platform, and specifically the Hon Reneilwe, please remain muted until you are recognised to speak. Please proceed, hon member.

Mr A NCHABELENG: Thank you, Chair. Where is the aggressive support for local manufacturing? Where is the expansion of productive employment? Where is the rebuilding of strategic

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industry? Where is the bold state intervention required to reverse deindustrialisation? And where is the integration of logistics, energy, finance, and trade policy into national development programme worthy of the name?

Instead, we get fragmented interventions in an economy that is structurally drifting. We get plans without power. We get targets without delivery. We get investment summits while factories close. We get speeches about competitiveness while infrastructure collapses. And we get the language of reform while productive base decays.

Hon Minister, in a country which cannot industrialise the basis of public relationships, it cannot trade competitively when ports are congested, rail is failing, electricity is unstable, and domestic demand is weak. It cannot build inclusive growth while policy remains trapped between caution, elite, reassurance, and administrative underdevelopment.

South African people do not need another budget wrapped in self-congratulations. They need a state that leads. They need strategic public investment. They need industrial policy linked to real productive capacity. They need developmental

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institutions that work. And they need a government that is measured on success, not by intervention and investment conferences

But factories that are opened need jobs to be created, they need exports to be expanded, infrastructure restored and communities rebuilt. For this reason, the MKP rejects this budget and we say vote MK.

Mr M MDLULI: Chairperson, South Africa is allocating 11,7 billion to this vote in 2026-27. The question before this House is not whether the money has been spent, but whether it has been spent intelligently and whether the department understands the difference between facilitating markets and attempting to replace them.

The department's own Medium-Term Development Plan targets GDP growth of 3% by 2029, yet South Africa's trend growth rate over the past decade has averaged below 1,5%. That gap is not technical. It is the difference between an economy that absorbs labour and one that excludes millions of people from opportunity. The incentives programme consumes R5,4 billion in 2026-27, more than half of the vote.

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The DA does not oppose industrial incentives in principle. We oppose incentives without proper conditionality. Subsidies that are not time-bound, performance-linked, and embedded within competitive market structures often produce rent-seeking instead of structural reform.

Nowhere is this tension clearer than in the scrap metal sector. The Department's export restriction on scrap metal, maintained in the name of protecting the domestic steel industry, has distorted markets without delivering the promised developmental outcomes. ArcelorMittal South Africa has benefited from preferential input pricing for years, yet we still do not have a globally competitive steel industry. Meanwhile, the recycling industry, which is labour-intensive, and globally, competitive in its own right, continues to be disadvantaged.

On AMSA, specifically, the committee has repeatedly asked the department to account for the public interest conditions attached to the merger approvals and sector support agreements. The Competition Commission must act decisively with its evidence of cartel conduct or abuse of dominance, but enforcement must remain evidence-led and proportionate. Once

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competition enforcement becomes industrial planning by another name, the risk of regulatory overreach emerges.

Another serious concern is South Africa's declining investments in research and development. Gross domestic expenditure on R&D has fallen from 0,7% of GDP in 2017-18 to 0,61% in 2022-23. Every successful industrial economy has deepened technological capacity. South Africa is moving in the opposite direction at precisely the wrong moment in the global economy.

On trade, the African Continental Free Trade Area, AFCTA, presents significant opportunities, but targets alone are insufficient. Without functioning rules of origin frameworks, customs harmonisation, the removal of non-tariff barriers, integration will remain limited. Behind every week's growth statistics are South Africans who cannot find work. Young graduates, locked out of the economy, and families denied the opportunity.

South Africa has more than 11 million unemployed people. Yet the department's performance indicators commit to creating

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only 2 600 jobs through developmental support in 2026-27. That ratio alone should concern every member of this House.

South Africa cannot continue subsidising stagnation. Every rand in the budget must expand competitiveness, investment, and employment. The DA will subject this vote and its entities to exactly that standard of scrutiny. I thank you.

IsiZulu:

Nk M DLAMINI: Angithathe leli thuba ngibingelele umongameli we-EFF, umongameli Julius Malema, ngibingelele ama-commissars, ama-fighters. Sithanda nokugqugquzela ulusha lwethu ukuthi luhambe luyobhalisela ukuvota.

English:

House Chairperson, we appreciate the tabling of the Budget Vote for Trade, Industry, and Competition. As the EFF, we do not support this proposed budget, and we have made sufficient contributions in the committee process. However, let us focus on a different issue today, House Chairperson. There seems to be confusion about what the industry actually is. People spend their time attending so-called investment conferences and investment facilitation summits and call that industry.

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The IDC, with all its corruption, claims it is investing in the industry while referring to hotels and private hospitals. The Deputy Minister gives speeches about gross capital formation in every address as though it is something the government controls or even properly understands. The less said about the so-called transformation fund, the better.

They spend their time travelling the world, attending bilateral meetings and trade expos, and they call that industry. They spend public money subsidising the automotive sector, while factories become increasingly automated. Yet, some still behave as though this sector alone can solve unemployment without any strategic state influence. This is the reality we are dealing with.

People who do not fully understand the meaning of industry within the Department of Trade, Industry, and Competition. Minister, we are not even addressing the complete disconnection between the National Treasury, the South African Reserve Bank, and the industrial policy. Fiscal policy, monetary policy, and industrial policy operate as if they belong to a different country. But that is a debate for another day.

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Here is the reality. In 1996, South Africa's aggregate real gross domestic product growth increased from about 1,5% in 1993 to approximately 3,5% in 1995. That same year, South Africa had a manufacturing census recording more than 25 000 manufacturing companies with a production value exceeding 334 billion and employing more than 1,47 million people. Today, according to Statistics SA and the VAT registration data, there are just over 11 000 manufacturing firms operating in this country.

Manufacturing once contributed more than 23% of the GDP in the early 90s. Today, it contributes just above 10%. This is de-industrialisation. But let us define industry properly.

Industry is not merely a sector of the economy. Industry is a large-scale production, concentration of means of production, and the creation of value. Industry must employ people, and it must reduce unemployment. Industry must produce goods.

The United Kingdom industrialised through textiles, steel, steam engines, railways, and ships. Germany built chemicals, automobiles, and engineering industries. Japan produced electronics and vehicles. South Korea developed semiconductors and electronics. China built machinery and consumer goods

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industries. Taiwan became a semiconductor powerhouse, while Singapore built petrochemical and advanced manufacturing industries. Those nations can proudly speak about industrialisation.

Industry must create new towns, new centres of production, and reduce pressure on overcrowded urban centres. Industry must transform the material conditions of society and the idea that South Africa no longer requires industrialisation is misguided and foolish. We still need industry, and we must re-industrialise.

What is to be done? We must revive the IDC and direct its funding towards the production of goods required to rebuild infrastructure, supported by state offtake agreements. We must insist that the state-owned companies produce goods locally and prioritise labour-intensive industries. We must support the agrarian economy, citrus in Limpopo, cannabis eKlobeni, wine in the Western Cape, and macadamia production in Mpumalanga, and convert these into finished shelf products.

We must also discuss industrial policy as part of rebuilding national economic security, including defence manufacturing

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capacity. We must pursue massive protected industrial development to create millions of sustainable jobs, introduce a meaningful minimum wage, and narrow the gap between black and white, rich and poor. The EFF does not support this budget vote.

Mr T M LANGA: Hon House Chairperson, greetings to the hon Minister and hon Deputy Ministers and hon portfolio committee members, the director-general, DG, all entities, the leadership under the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition and fellow South Africans. Hon House Chairperson, at the outset the IFP recognises the strategic important of the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition in rebuilding South Africa's economy, supporting industrialisation, expanding exports and creating sustainable jobs.

At a time when unemployment remains devastatingly high especially among the youth, the department must become a central driver of economic renewal and not just an administrator of policy. The department budget allocation of R11,7 billion for the 2026-27 financial year reflects the

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government's intention to support industrial development and economic transformation.

However, the IFP remains concerned that despite increased allocations, economic growth remains slow, investor confidence remain fragile and South Africans still experience little improvement in their daily economic realities. We welcome the department's continued focus on industrialisation, digitisation, decarbonisation and diversification of the economy.

We further support efforts to strengthen South Africa's participation in the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, as expanded free trade represents meaningful opportunities for local manufactures and exporters. However, policy ambition alone is not enough. South Africans want implementation. They want factories operating, businesses growing and jobs being created.

We note with concern that a large percentage of the department's budget is allocated to transfers and subsidies while incentives and development finances are important, there

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must be stronger oversight to ensure that these funds produce measurable economic outcomes.

Too often, government programmes announce billions in support while small businesses on the ground struggle with access to finance, unreliable infrastructure, excessive red tape and rising operational costs.

We are particularly concerned about the decline and allocations to critical programmes such as trade and regulation. The trade programme experiences significant reduction despite South Africa facing increasingly volatile global trade conditions and growing competition in export markets.

We welcome the support for Special Economic Zones, SEZs, and industrial parks which remain important tools for revitalising local economies and attracting investment.

The allocation of over R950 million towards SEZs demonstrates the important government attaches to industrial infrastructure. However, these zones must not become isolated islands of development that fail to benefit surrounding

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communities. Local procurement, skills development and community participation must remain central.

We also believe the transformation must go beyond compliance, target and political rhetoric. Real empowerment means enabling entrepreneurs especially young people women and rural communities to participate meaningfully in productive sectors of the economy. South Africa does not suffer from a shortage of plans, it suffers from weak implementation, inconsistent policy certainty and declining state capacity. The department must prioritise efficiency, accountability and measurable outcomes.

The IFP supports an economy that is competitive, inclusive and driven by productive enterprise. Therefore, we support Budget Vote No 39. We will continue to advocate for policies that support industrial growth, protect local industries and expand export opportunities and create sustainable employment for our people.

IsiZulu:

Ngiyathokoza kakhulu.

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English:

I thank you.

Ms S M PETERS: Hon House Chairperson, hon Minister and hon Deputy Ministers, industrial policy cannot only be about attracting foreign investment while neglecting localisation, skills development and worker protection. If we are serious about industrialisation, then South Africa must ensure that local component manufacture small businesses and township entrepreneurs are fully integrated into these value-chains. Without these our economy will remain dependent and our people remain excluded.

Recently, government increased importing duties on certain steel products to protect domestic producers from a flood of cheap imports. This decision highlights a broader challenge facing South African industry. Our manufacturers are competing against heavily subsidised international markets while struggling with high electricity costs, collapsing infrastructure logistics failures and unreliable freight systems. These are the daily realities that erode competitiveness and destroy jobs of our people.

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Hon members, another pressing issue is the automotive market it is being flooded with Asian branded cars equipped with advanced technology. These imports expensive and dealerships are simply responding to consumer demand. However, the consequence is that ordinary citizens in smaller dealerships cannot afford these vehicles or compete with larger dealerships. The result is closure, job losses and further concentration of economic power in the hands of a few.

Trade policy is not just about exports and imports. It is about whether our people can find work, it is about whether industries survive. It is about whether South Africa becomes a truly industrial economy or remains dependant on imported goods while unemployment continues to rise.

Hon House Chairperson, if we are to succeed, our trade and industrial policies must be rooted in local empowerment, skills development and worker protection. Only then will industrialisation translate into inclusive growth and shared prosperity for all South Africans. The PA supports Budget Vote No 9.

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Dr W J BOSHOFF: Hon House Chairperson, hon Minister and hon Deputy Ministers, there is a perception that the FFPlus's opposition to the policy of Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment, BBBEE, means that the FFPlus is opposed to black people being empowered. That is indeed not true. It is exactly not true. The only way in which we can have stability in South Africa is if all our people from all the different groups are indeed economically empowered. That is indeed the truth.

There is only one way to get that. That is through economic ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order, hon members!

Dr Boshoff!

Dr W J BOSHOFF: If we do not have economic empowerment, economic growth ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order, hon members!

Dr Boshoff, just hold on. Hon members, hon members, I am on the floor now. Please calm down!

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Order, hon members! I will take your hand just now. I am still on the floor.

Hon members, this is a debate within Parliament on a Budget Vote.

We can disagree with one another, but we cannot do is to drown out the speakers at the podium.

No, no, no, he has the floor now. So, we must give him an opportunity to air his views even if we disagree with him.

Before you continue Dr Boshoff. Hon why did you want to be recognised?

Mr A NCHABELENG: Hon House Chairperson, you know I like you, but Dr Boshoff must talk to the hon Minister, not us. He is really bashing us.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, that is really not a point of order. And you know I like you too.

Dr Boshoff, please continue.

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Sorry, we have another hand here.

Is that a point of order, hon Masina.

Mr M C MASINA: Hon House Chairperson, my apologies. I do not want to disturb the speaker on the platform. I just want to to ask him: How many times does he ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, no.

Hon Masina, you know better. We first enquire from the hon member at the podium whether they want to take a question.

Dr Boshoff, do you want to take the question?

No, no.

Let us not turn into a state of disorder please.

Dr W J BOSHOFF: I am prepared to take a question, hon House Chairperson.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Alright, the hon member is prepared to take a question.

So, now hon member, you can ask the question.

Mr M C MASINA: Hon Bosshoff, I would like to ask: Your views on transformation and why you think that when there is a focus on empowering those who were previously not empowered before you have a problem with that?

Why you think that when we are proposing policies that are an equaliser you have a problem with that?

Thank you very much.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. Dr Boshoff.

Alright. Let us allow the hon member to respond.

No, no, no.

Dr W J BOSHOFF: I hope that ...

There is another hand I do not know ...

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn) "Ja."

Dr Boshoff, just take your seat.

Mr M S MBATHA: Hon House Chairperson, it is a follow up that he can also answer in one sentence. He looks very clever!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, no!

Hon member, sit down!

Mr M S MBATHA: It is a follow up question!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order, now!

Mr M S MBATHA: The hon member, thinks he is clever, so he can be asked any question!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, please do not do that!

Mr M S MBATHA: Alright.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): In terms of our rules ...

Mr M S MBATHA: Did your grandfather told you about
Afrikanerdom?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, if you are going to continue like that, I am going to switch off your mic and if you disregard me further, I am going to ask you to leave the Chamber.

Let us allow Dr Boshoff to answer this question. If you want to at some point again enquire whether he is prepared to take a question you are welcomed to do so but this is not like questions to the executive where we have immediate follow ups.

Dr Boshoff, please continue and let us give him the space.

Dr W J BOSHOFF: Thank you, hon House Chairperson and the hon chairperson of the portfolio committee.

The reason why the FFPlus is against this transformation legislation is because the same people are empowered over and over again. A black child who grew up in the top educational

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institutions of this country went to the best universities in this country or internationally is not a disadvantaged person anymore.

That is the basic thing. In terms of the economy and I cannot say anything about the person's self-confidence but in terms of opportunities that person is an empowered person with the opportunities to take part in the South African economy.

Therefore, we are saying, that after 30 years, the vulnerability of people, the position that they are in, the education institutions that they attended, those are all issues that should be taken in consideration when we say we want to empower people. Of course, the state is in a position to assist the more vulnerable.

Of course, there are people who by nature and by birth and by natural opportunities in a better position to compete within the economy. However, not all those who are in a better position are white. Not all those who are in a worse position are black. Therefore, if the state wants to intervene on behalf of the vulnerable people, it should do a means test to do that.

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Mr A NCHABELENG: On a point of order, hon House Chairperson. I think the amount of time ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Dr Boshoff, please just take your seat.

Hon member, for you to be recognised you must raise your hand. Please just stay unmuted.

Mr A NCHABELENG: That is the reason I was calling you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr A NCHABELENG: Hon House Chairperson, can the hon member take a question?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Alright. We will enquire from the hon member whether he wants to take a question.

Dr Bosshoff, would you take a question.

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Dr W J BOSHOFF: Hon House Chairperson, I have 67 seconds to take a question, but I would like to do so.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Alright. You can pose your question, hon member.

Mr A NCHABELENG: Hon member, you took over and you ran an apartheid system for 48 years before 1994. We are just on 32-years.

Why are you so much in a rush that we must not be empowered? Why?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you.

There is the question, Dr Boshoff.

Dr W J BOSHOFF: Of course, I really love everybody to be empowered. What is very important ...

Mr A NCHABELENG: That is the problem!

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Dr W J BOSHOFF: What was the direction of economic growth during different paths of the South African history, and I am just talking about the state of South Africa since 1910. If we look at the 42 years after 1948, there was an upward strength and infrastructure was built and created while in the 30 years since 1994, the opposite happened.

We are in favour of real empowerment by maintaining the economy and it seems that you have a problem with that! That is unbelievable!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. Order, hon members. Order, order!

Yes, hon member, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr A NCHABELENG: Hon House Chairperson, I was suggesting giving the hon member extra time to tell us how he feels about black people. It is important.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, no, hon member, that is not a point of order I can sustain, his time for questions and answers has now run out.

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The next speaker is the hon Beesley.

Order hon members, let us afford the hon Beesley an opportunity.

Mr A D BEESLEY: House Chair, the latest unemployment figures for the first quarter of this year recently released by Statistics SA paint a devastating picture of South Africa's economy. In the three months, 345 000 jobs were lost. That equates to roughly 30 000 jobs disappearing every week or nearly 6 000 jobs every single workday. These are not just statistics, they represent shattered livelihoods, struggling families and communities pushed deeper and deeper into poverty.

The report further reveals that nearly 12 million South Africans are either unemployed or so discouraged that they have given up looking for work. Sixty percent of young people between the ages of 15 and 24 are unemployed. Eleven percent of graduates remained unemployed despite obtaining qualifications and the expanded unemployment rate has reached a record of 43,7%.

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ActionSA, against this backdrop, has written to the President calling for the dismissal of the four Ministers directly responsible for the job's blood bath, the Minister of Employment and Labour, the Minister of Small Business Development, the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, a you Minister, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition.

Minister, as the head of the department tasked with driving economic growth, industrialisation and investment, your tenure has been marked by failure. South Africa cannot continue this trajectory and accountability is long overdue. Under your watch, Minister, economic growth has stagnated at around 1%, while many of our neighbouring and peer developing economies are growing at rates of between 3 and 4%. Government continues to blame external factors, but the truth is that much of our economic decline is self-inflicted, the consequences of weak leadership, policy failure and a Government of National Unity, GNU, that appears bereft of urgency and new ideas.

Minister, under your watch, South Africa has continued to de-industrialise. Manufacturing should be the backbone of economic growth and sustainable job creation. Yet

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manufacturing's contribution to the gross domestic product, GDP, has fallen from approximately 20% to around 12%. Last year alone, the manufacturing sector, under your watch, Minister, contracted by 1,4%. Every time a factory machine is switched off, and a worker loses their job, it becomes exponentially harder to recover their productivity capacity. While other countries are modernising and expanding their industrial bases, South Africa is moving backwards. If this trend is not urgently reversed, the consequences will become irreversible.

The solutions required to revive economic growth and rebuild our manufacturing sector are neither radical nor complicated. They include, firstly, urgently reducing the red tape and regulatory burdens that are suffocating businesses. Secondly, replacing the current broad-based black economic empowerment, BBBEE, framework with policies that drive genuine inclusion and growth. ActionSA believes transformation is both morally imperative and economically necessary, which is why we have proposed the Opportunity Fund - a bottom-up, broad-based and more inclusive model for economic empowerment and transformation. Thirdly, ensuring that goods can be imported, exported and transported across the country efficiently and

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cost-effectively through functional logistic infrastructure. Lastly, delivering reliable and affordable electricity to businesses and manufacturers.

Chair, ActionSA cannot support the budget of a department that continues to fail in its core mandate of promoting industrialisation, investment and job creation. On behalf of the nearly 12 million unemployed and discouraged South Africans, and the countless business owners forced to shut their doors, we reiterate our call for you, Minister, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition to be removed from office. I thank you.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION (Ms A L A Abrahams): Hon Chairperson, hon Minister, Deputy Minister and hon members, South Africa cannot regulate its way to prosperity. We must build our way there, we must trade our way there and we must industrialise our way there.

This Budget Vote takes place at a difficult economic moment. Geopolitical instability, inflationary pressure and trade disruptions continue to weigh on developing economies.

Domestically, our economy grew by only 1,1% in 2025, far below

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the growth rate required to meaningfully reduce our high rate of unemployment and poverty. Behind every unemployment statistic is a household under severe pressure, a business unable to expand and a young person losing confidence that the economy and their country have a place for them. South Africans want jobs, investment and an economy that gives ordinary citizens, without elite connections, a fair chance to build a better life.

The central question that this budget therefore seeks to respond to is: How must the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, DTIC, which sits at the heart of the economy, create the conditions for faster growth, greater investment and sustainable job creation? The answer begins with recognising that economic growth is produced by confidence, certainty, competitive open markets, functioning infrastructure, a capable state and by government institutions that reduce barriers to growth and make it easier for businesses to invest, manufacture, export and employ.

As the Deputy Minister responsible for technical infrastructure entities, including the SA Bureau of Standards, SABS, National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications, NRCS,

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SA National Accreditation System, SANAS, and National Metrology Institute of SA, NMISA, I want to emphasise an underrated point. We need to recognise that standards, accreditation, metrology and product regulation are critical economic infrastructure.

South African products must meet international standards to compete globally. If regulation becomes inconsistent, inefficient or too costly, investment moves elsewhere. A capable regulatory environment must protect consumers, support industrial growth and play their role to combat the illicit market of counterfeit and illegal products costing the economy hundreds of billions of rand annually. Within the confines of this budget, the allocations to these entities must translate into measurable improvements in turnaround time, governance, certificate capacity and support for exporters and manufacturers.

Chairperson, there is a growing recognition that South Africa faces serious structural constraints - excessive red tape, infrastructure bottlenecks, weak investment levels and regulatory inefficiency. That is why the DTIC is working on the Business Omnibus Bill, which seeks to modernise,

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rationalise and streamline existing commercial legislation in order to fundamentally improve the ease of doing business in South Africa.

A key mechanism for realising one of the specific objectives of the Bill is fast-tracking investment. This has already been established in the form of the Fusion Centre, where investment-related regulatory bottlenecks are addressed while the public-facing self-tracking dashboard portal is still in development. We must make every effort to ensure that this high-speed approval lane is successful and meets the 90-day turnaround timeframe for major projects that can boost local employment and export growth.

Just as the DTIC seeks to avoid the concentration of industrial financing in a few economic centres, so too does South Africa require empowerment policies that do not only concentrate their impact on a small group of beneficiaries, but instead produces economic inclusion for all and expands access to sustainable opportunities, particularly for young people, women, workers and emerging entrepreneurs.

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House Chair, I was in Matlosana, North West Province two weeks ago with the National Council of Provinces, NCOP, where a resident stood up and told us that in 1994, he had high hopes and dreams of what the new dawn of democracy would bring. Today, he's 50 years old and he has never had formal employment in his life. In fact, they are born-frees who have never had formal employment in their life, and that is the reality of millions of South Africans. If we do not do something drastic, there'll be children born today, 2026, that will never have formal employment in their life.

The only way to change the social picture that many of the hon members stood up here and echoed as well, is to change the economic picture and to change the economic direction that has led us down the path of low economic growth. We must do this through bold economic policy and legislative reforms, which the DTIC is responsible for. Thank you, House Chairperson.

Ms S MOSIKATSI: House Chair, greetings to the Minister, Deputy Ministers, hon members and South Africa at a large. The ANC supports Budget Vote 39 because the programme of the department and its entities remain a core principle underpinning South Africa's future economic growth,

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transformation and competitiveness. The programme and entities of the department seeks to inclusive economic growth, job preservation, job creation, facilitating a higher level of export and long-term economic self-sufficiency for the country through reindustrialisation and domestic manufacture. By investing in infrastructure and local supply chains, South Africa can build a strong, competitive and self-sustaining economy aligned to the national development plan.

Increasing investment in beneficiation and local industrialisation will add value that can strengthen the economy by creating jobs, expanding manufacturing capacity and reducing dependence on raw materials export. Instead of exporting raw materials, beneficiation allows the country to process resources locally, adding greater economic value, generating higher revenues, enables local industrialisation and job creation. In turn, enables support for the department for the development of medium and small business, especially youth and women.

We must embrace diversification, decarbonisation and digitalisation, expressing opportunities and dealing with challenges. The green economy and digital revolution provide

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new industries opportunities and must be embraced. We must support skills development, technological innovation while improving economic inclusion in investing in local factories, infrastructure and local supply chains. It improves inclusive participation and support disadvantaged communities, reduces inequality and poverty. It supports local production and reduces independence on import goods. Manufacturing capacity improves economic resilience and trade competitiveness.

Invest SA, as a one-stop shop programme, supports foreign direct investment flows by providing a platform from investment promotion while facilitating after support for investors. This is an integrated programme through the three spheres of government. It has helped to facilitate an ongoing pipeline of investment projects worth over R93 billion. It forms a key part of broader national drive and has secured over R2,4 trillion in cumulative investment pledges since 2018 of more than R634 billion already actively flowing into the economy.

This budget makes provision for a development and support black industrialists programmes, which is encouraging the development of industrialisation amongst the majority of

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population to correct a distort-free market system, which enables historical economic exclusion. This programme also requires government and large firms to set targets for sourcing from black-owned manufacturers for products like steel components, plastic textiles and food processing.

This budget works to build South Africa's export market and facilitate economies of scale industrial development by strengthening trade and investment links with key economies and foreign African development. The trade wars in Africa after, has resulted in a shifting trading pattern worth 30% of South Africa's global export trade and is currently valued at R400 billion. The country's trade surplus of March 2026 sits at R31,9 billion.

Reversing deindustrialisation requires South Africa to strengthen primary, secondary and tertiary industries through strategic investment in infrastructure and industrial development. By improving energy supply, manufacturing capacity, transport networks and digital infrastructure, the country can unlock economic growth, create jobs and expand local production. Budget Vote 39 further focus in supporting

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distressed industries such as sugar, steel manufacturing, protect jobs and grow jobs, including restoring value chains.

The fund in enterprise development includes support for priority sectors such as manufacturing steel and ferrochrome. Sugar automotive transition of the expected value, EV, which is critical for localisation, received an amount of R964 million over the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework, MTEF, for transition.

Government has a responsibility to reduce carbon emissions while transitioning to greener and sustainable economy. South Africa has a great opportunity in the renewable energy, electrical vehicles, green industrialisation and green hydrogen. In this regard, the transition ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): ... thank you, hon member. Your time is now expired.

Ms S MOSIKATSI: Thank you, Chair. The ANC supports the budget.

Mr W M THRING: Hon House Chairperson, the ACDP asserts that this Budget Vote 39 of some R11,7 billion for the Department

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of Trade, Industry and Competition, DTIC, must be evaluated against one central imperative, whether it is building a productive, industrialised and globally competitive South African economy. The economic indices suggests not. Hence, greater urgency is needed to unlock economic growth, create jobs and strengthen beneficiation across strategic sectors.

The ACDP has lamented on South Africa's reliance on exporting raw materials while importing higher value finished products at greater cost. This model limits industrial expansion, weakens job creation and prevents the country from fully benefiting from its mineral wealth. Beneficiation must, therefore, move from being a policy aspiration to becoming a measurable economic priority through a beneficiation index propagated by the ACDP. Our platinum, manganese, chrome, vanadium and rare earth minerals should drive domestic manufacturing, battery production, green technologies and industrial development within our borders.

The ACDP proposed accelerated beneficiation programmes and industrial value chain development, providing stronger incentives for local mineral processing, refinery expansion and downstream manufacturing industries. Secondly, the ACDP

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asserts that greater support must be directed towards small and medium enterprises, township manufacturers and youth-owned ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Order, hon members. The hon Thring still has time.

Mr W M THRING: My apologies, Chair.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Thring, continue.

Mr W M THRING: I'm not sure where I ... I've just come back and it seems as if the signal was lost.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Thring, you still ... order, hon members. You still have one minute. You have one minute.

Mr W M THRING: Okay, thank you. Let me then go back to the second point that I raised from the ACDP. The ACDP asserts that greater support must be directed towards small and medium enterprises, township manufacturers and youth-owned businesses. Many entrepreneurs continue to face barriers in

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accessing finance, markets, regulatory approvals and procurement opportunities. Economic inclusion cannot succeed if smaller enterprises remain excluded from industrial growth opportunities.

South Africa must improve export competitiveness and regional trade integration. The African Continental Free Trade Area, AfCFTA, presents major opportunities for local manufacturers, yet logistical inefficiencies, port delays and rising transport costs continue to undermine trade performance. As kingdom builders, the ACDP believes that if implemented effectively, these reforms can position South Africa as not merely an exporter of raw resources, but as a leading industrial economy on the African Continent.

Industrialisation remains the foundation of sustainable economic growth. Thank you, hon House Chair. [Time expired.]

Xitsonga:

Tat S M GANA: Mutshamaxitulu, va vuyile na yona khapu vafana eMbombela.

English:

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We once again congratulate the three times treble champions of South Africa, the institution that is Orlando Pirates, more than a football club it's a way of life.

Minister, as we congratulate Orlando Pirates, we must also say that we cannot gamble our way to prosperity. A nation does not build factories through gambling, it does not industrialise through gambling and it certainly does not restore the dignity of the struggling families through gambling addiction.

For too long, Minister, we have moved too slowly. I hope the Deputy Minister will address this particular matter. We have moved too slowly in dealing with the gambling crisis in South Africa. There's just no sense of urgency. We behave and you behave together with the National Gambling Policy Council, as if there's a lot of time whilst gambling addiction is destroying families and families are drowning in debt.

What we do know, Minister, is that the gambling boards, will not bring the kind of reforms that we need. Their focus is primarily on revenue collection. As long as money flows into their accounts, they are happy. So, it now rests on you and the National Gambling Board to bring the much needed gambling

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reforms. It is for this reason, Minister, that as Rise Mzansi, we have consistently called for gambling reforms in South Africa. We will not stop. I will not stop until there are gambling reforms.

Many of the reforms that we are calling for, Minister, they don't need a change in legislation. It is just regulations. You know, the 2004 Gambling Act, empowers you as a Minister, not just the provincial licensing authorities to say this slogan. Let's say, for instance, why do we still have a slogan that says, winners know when to stop? With the crisis that we have in South Africa, there's no warning whatsoever on the dangers of gambling addiction. I know you told me that you will meet with the National Gambling Policy Council. I hope that brings tangible reforms. Less photographs and tangible reforms.

The last issue and the second issue I want to raise, Minister, is this issue of transformation. The Black Economic Empowerment, BEE, has become demonised. The economic emancipation of black people is constantly under attack. Every excuse is now used to discredit black advancement. Yes, we

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accept that mistakes have been made. We must confront corruption and elite enrichment wherever it exists.

However, Minister, we must never ever abandon transformation. The inclusion of black people, women, young people and persons with disabilities in the economy matters. Economic participation matters. And you know what? Representation matters. It matters. Let's not abandon transformation. Let's fix what has gone wrong. Nevertheless, the advancement of black people must happen.

Xitsonga:

Ndza khensa, Mutshamaxitulu.

English:

Once and always.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Order, hon members.

Mrs N L HLAZO-WEBSTER: House Chair, BOSA supports the strategic direction of this budget because South Africa urgently needs industrial growth, investment attraction, export expansion, and stronger support for enterprise

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development. But we must reveal and we must engage on some of the weaknesses within the budget, because what budgets do is that they reveal priority.

Priority is not revealed by speeches but by budgets and not ... government is willing to fund. And on that, I want to start on township economic development because this budget still exposes a very serious contradiction. The department speaks extensively about localisation, inclusive growth, township economies, yet, there remains no clearly ringfenced, dedicated township economy allocation.

And maybe this debate explains why, because we've heard from the hon Dr Boshoff who suggests that once a person is educated, empowerment should effectively end. But that argument fundamentally misunderstands how exclusion reproduces itself. Inequality is not individual, it is generational.

And Dr Boshoff, I would imagine that you've played monopoly. If you played a game of monopoly against somebody and you had all the money, you had all the houses up front and you played rounds and rounds of monopoly and the other person did not have any money, that did not have any houses and then you can

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suddenly say, oh, now we're equal, four rounds later, and you expect that, that person who's only getting opportunity now is suddenly equal. That is not equality. You do not achieve equality in one generation. It does not work like that. But not only is inequality not individual, it is also spatial, it is also structural.

A graduate from Sandton or Mdantsane or Khayelitsha does not enter an economy at the same starting line as a graduate from Constantia. And that is because there's still issues that they come back to, transport systems, collapsing infrastructure, they lack business networks, they have limited access to capital.

So, this is precisely why we speak about, for instance, township special economic zones, SEZs, because if government is serious about inclusive industrialisation, then industrial policy must move closer to where the economically excluded people actually live. That is that on the issue of development, economic development and the advancement of those who have been excluded from the economy. We cannot stop.

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Chairperson, on the film and creative industries, they deserve urgent attention. South Africa's film sector, globally, is competitive and labour-intensive, and we ask that, having seen what has been allocated, we're able to ultimately have clarity on how much of the historic block in the film industry remains unresolved from the Minister. Thank you.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION (Mr Z Godlimpi): Hon Chairperson, may I just reiterate what hon Gana said, that we dedicate budget 39 to the victory of Orlando Pirates, who are the reigning champions of the league.

[Laughter.]

But I just want to reiterate a few points that the Minister spoke about and to make the point that I think we broadly agree on the strategic direction of industrial policy, even if we don't agree on areas of emphasis, crown prince.

So, we agree that for South Africa, the challenge is not simply growth, it is where that growth happens, who participates in it and whether industrialisation reaches the communities historically excluded from productive economic activity.

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The South African economy remains spatially divided, where industrial activity, investment and infrastructure remain concentrated in a few economic centres, while large parts of our country remain on the margins of productive activity. And that is why the spatial dimension of industrial development has become central to the work that the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition is doing, because we think that industrialisation must reach where our people live.

Over the past few months we've spent time in KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo and the Eastern Cape, engaging directly with businesses operating in industrial parks, SEZs and manufacturing sectors.

That's why I'm surprised, hon Nchabeleng, when you say we have not been seen on the ground, because we've spent quite a lot of time in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape going back to revive those industrial parks that have been in decline for quite some time.

But what we've picked up is that across the regions of the country, the productive potential exists, the entrepreneurial capability exists, the industrial infrastructure base still

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exists, but we've noticed that these ecosystems require coordinated support from the state to unlock growth, investment and jobs. That is why government is repositioning industrial parks and SEZs as anchor points of regional economic development.

We will discuss the Zuma post-power manifesto some other time.

[Interjections.]

What we need is that these industrial parks must become productive industrial ecosystems supporting localisation, supplier development and manufacturing expansion and exports. And SEZs cannot operate as islands disconnected from the broader economies around them.

The future of our SEZ programme depends on the strength of the surrounding regional economy and the productive ecosystems feeding into them.

So, we want the SEZ that is in Richards Bay to have a relationship with the industrial park that is in Ezakheni inland.

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Hon Chair, last week we also heard the concerns raised by businesses and investors in industrial parks such as Vulindlela, Dimbaza and Fort Jackson in the Eastern Cape. We are going to Mpumalanga as well.

The message is clear: localisation, reliable infrastructure, industrial financing and stronger integration into regional supply chains are essential for growth and job creation.

So, when the Minister was speaking about the pact between the Export Credit Insurance Corporation, ECIC, and the banks on trade finance, we're talking about financing exports from those industrial parks as well.

So, the plan that we are tabling here resonates with all the points that all the political parties are making, including my friends in the EFF here.

That is why government is working to ensure that industrial parks increasingly form part of the supply chain, supporting the Original Equipment Manufacturer, OEMs, and manufacturers located in the East London Industrial Development Zone, IDZ, and Coega.

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We are deliberately repositioning development finance so that industrial financing reaches township industrialists, rural producers, young innovators and manufacturers operating outside the traditional centres of economic activity. And we want to use those industrial parks and SEZs to be delivery points even for the Development Finance Institutions, DFIs, as well.

Now, hon Chairperson, government's intention is to systematically scale these industrial ecosystems so that they become globally competitive and capable of leveraging opportunities presented by the African Continental Free Trade Area, AfCFTA, and other export markets.

The AfCFTA presents enormous opportunities for South African manufacturing, but we cannot take advantage of continental markets if our productive capacity remains narrow and spatially concentrated. That is why we are working to strengthen the integration between these SEZs, the industrial parks, logistics infrastructure, localisation programmes and export-oriented industrial development.

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Now, I'm not sure why, hon Nchabeleng, you are saying our energy system is unpredictable. We've not had load shedding in over a year, and the performance of Transnet is improving.

In any case ... now, this is the point that I want to make. The integrated approach we are using also informs government's work in the sugar industry. Government is working closely with growers, millers, workers and financiers to protect jobs, sustain industrial capacity, and secure the long-term future of the sugar industry in KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga.

During our recent visits to the sugar mills across KwaZulu-Natal we were encouraged by the reopening of the Gledhow Mill in Stanger, which demonstrates continued investment and confidence in the industry despite the current challenges facing Tongaat Hulett, which we are also working very closely with to sustain.

Ultimately, our task is to build a more spatially inclusive industrial economy where industrial parks and SEZs drive regional growth, industrial financing reaches the periphery, and local businesses participate meaningfully in supply chains and exports. Thank you very much, Chair. [Interjections.]

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Mr A NCHABELENG: Chair, our people are still suffering load reduction, so, the load energy prices ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member, there's no ...
[Interjections.]

Mr A NCHABELENG: I waited for the Minister to finish. We still have load reduction. Thanks, Chair.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member, you raise the point when there is a speaker on the podium.

Mr R W T CHANCE: Chairperson, first of all, I just want to thank members of the committee for the collegial and constructive way in which we conduct our business, always intelligent, always mature, and I think the same goes for our relations with the Ministry. I think it's a very functional committee and long may that continue. However, Minister, the trouble is that the numbers don't lie, and I'm going to give you some numbers.

In 2008, gross fixed capital formation stood at 21% of GDP. In 2025, it was down a third, at 14%. Manufacturing share of GDP

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has declined from 23% to 13%. Unemployment has climbed from 23%, with four million people out of work, to 43% under the expanded definition, with 13 million people without work. Youth unemployment is a staggering 60%. Economic growth has averaged 2% since 2008. Our Southern African Development Community, SADC, neighbours have averaged 3,5% to 4,5%.

Yesterday, the African Development Bank reported that Morocco has overtaken South Africa as Africa's most industrialised country. Three global entities tell the same story. The World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index ranked us 45th in 2008. Now we are 64th. We were 32nd on the Ease of Doing Business Index in 2008. In the latest report, we are ranked 84th. The Fraser Institute's Economic Freedom of the World Index ranked South Africa 54th in 2008. Today, we are ranked 83rd.

It is telling that the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition's annual performance plan does not measure its performance against any of these indicators. Is South Africa an island, entire of itself? It would seem so in this Ministry's wonderland. I could go on, but you get the message, hon members.

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Minister, for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee. By every single measure of performance, South Africa has declined relative to our peers. Why is this? What have we done so wrong that has led us to the calamitous situation where close to half of the working population lie idle at home, dependent on meagre social grants and without the dignity of a job?

Misguided ANC policies stuck in the 1960s and 1970s, rampant corruption, cadre deployment, mismanagement and loyalty to international Cold War comrades. These are the responsible factors for South Africa's relative decline.

President Ramaphosa, in appointing his Government of National Unity, GNU, Cabinet, chose ANC Ministers to run the key economic departments of Finance, Trade, Industry and Competition, Small Business Development, Employment and Labour, mining, Transport, Water, Electricity and Energy, as well as International Relations.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member on the platform ... [Inaudible.]

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Mr R W T CHANCE: Between them, these Ministries have control of the main levers of the economy. Most of them fall into the economic sectors, investment, employment and infrastructure development cluster, chaired by none other than Minister Tau.

Within this cluster, it is no coincidence that the greatest reforms have taken place under DA Ministers. I am referring here to Minister Malatsi's determination to bring data connectivity to the entire country and Minister Macpherson's targeting of the construction mafia ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member, please.

Mr R W T CHANCE: ... and removing political patronage from Expanded Public Works Programme, EPWP, appointments.

The same can be said for Deputy Minister Abrahams, who has been negotiating effective ways to advance South Africa's trade interests. Recently, Deputy Minister Abrahams pushed for a stronger implementation ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member Chance at the podium. Hon member?

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Mr R W T CHANCE: ... [Inaudible.] ... an approach to economic co-operation with Botswana, while also promoting the need for a quality infrastructure ... [Inaudible.] ... tool for market access and industrialisation.

Just last week, Deputy Minister Jane Sithole ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Order, hon member! There is a hand that has been raised. Take your seat.

Mr A D BEESLEY: Chair, will he also tell us about Minister Steenhuisen's performance?

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Beesley, can I note you first? Hon Chance, take a seat. Hon Beesley, you are noted.

Mr A D BEESLEY: Can he also tell us about the performance of Minister Steenhuisen?

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): That is not a point of order. Hon Hlazo-Webster?

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Mrs N L HLAZO-WEBSTER: Is the member willing to take a question about the artificial intelligence, AI, gremlin that happened in digital communications?

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Hlazo-Webster, you only request the member to take a question. You stop there. Hon Chance, are you willing to take a question?

Mr R W T CHANCE: No, not at this point. I am ... [Inaudible.]

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Continue, hon member.

Mr R W T CHANCE: Deputy Minister Jane ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Chance, there is a hand.

Mr A NCHABELENG: Thank you so much for the opportunity. Remove the ANC members. They are not participating. This member ... [Inaudible.]

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Nchabeleng, you are out of order. Hon members, although it is allowed for you to

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heckle, please do not drown out the speaker. Heckling is allowed in Parliament, but howling and drowning out the speaker is not allowed. Continue, hon member.

Mr R W T CHANCE: Just last week, Deputy Minister Jane Sithole used her budget speech to launch a concrete plan to cut red tape for small businesses, which will result in increased economic activity.

Minister Tau's department has suffered under the yoke of successive communist Ministers who see businesses as oppressors of workers, not as drivers of investment, innovation and growth. Minister Rob Davies' Promotion and Protection of Investment Bill was the precise opposite of what its name suggests.

As my predecessor, Dean Macpherson, pointed out at the time, during public hearings not a single foreign chamber of commerce was prepared to endorse the Bill.

It was under Minister Ebrahim Patel that South Africa's policies on competition, mergers and acquisitions became another barrier to investment. Instead of welcoming inward

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investment, every merger or acquisition presented an opportunity for the state to extract concessions.

Minister Tau's recent gazetting of increased thresholds for merger notifications is a step in the right direction of reversing this trend, but public interest clauses remain a door to state meddling and overreach. Businesses are still faced with crippling compliance costs. The omnibus Bill is meant to alleviate some of these, as Deputy Minister Abrahams has pointed out, but there is still no timeline for when this will be tabled.

However, on employment equity, broad-based black economic empowerment, bailing out state-owned enterprises, SOEs, and sending the wrong signals to some of our most important trade partners, Ramaphosa's ANC Ministers are doubling down on failed policies which deter investors. Minister Tau might not be a communist, but he is in danger of repeating the same mistakes as his predecessors. In the past two years, it's been business as usual at the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, with only marginal changes to the main programmes and entities under his control. There is painfully little progress ...

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The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Chance, there is a hand. Can you take a seat?

Mr A D BEESLEY: Chair, I'm a bit confused that the DA ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Beesley, you are grossly out of order. Allow me to recognise you first. You are recognised.

Mr A D BEESLEY: Chair, I'm a little bit confused. Does the DA not have a Deputy Minister in that ... [Inaudible.]

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member, that is not a point of order. Continue, hon Chance. Order, hon members!

Mr R W T CHANCE: Minister Tau might not be a communist, but he is in danger of repeating the same mistakes as his predecessors. In the past two years, it's been business as usual, with only marginal changes to the main programmes and entities under his control. There is painfully little progress with important legislative reforms on online gambling, cannabis and hemp, copyright and intellectual property, credit amendments, among others.

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Finally, Minister Tau, where is this much-vaunted industrial policy? We've waited for two years and it's gone twice through Cabinet, but we haven't seen it. Are we going to see it?

The final thing I want to point out, Minister, is that the committee made a very strong statement about the need for an independent investigation into the impact of black economic empowerment, BEE. This is something which all the committee members agreed on. We may not necessarily think that the outcome is going to be one or the other, but the point is that the country is demanding it. Yes, the country is demanding an investigation into the impact of BEE.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Chance, take your seat. Hon Nchabeleng?

Mr A NCHABELENG: Chair, respectfully so, the member is misleading ... He says the committee agreed.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member, that is not a point of order.

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Mr R W T CHANCE: This gentleman is not a member of our committee. He doesn't know what the report says. I'm afraid he doesn't know what he's talking about. I make the point, hon Chairperson and members of this House ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon members, you are drowning out the speaker.

An HON MEMBER: Chairperson.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon members, you are drowning out the speaker.

Mr R W T CHANCE: You can speak louder.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon member, you are noted.

Dr L MANAGA: Chair, as much as the speaker at the podium would like to be respected, he must also respect the members. There is no gentleman here in this House.

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The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Thank you, hon member. I did not hear that. I will listen and come back to ... Hon Mzwandile?

Ms M C MASINA: Hon Chair, in the portfolio committee we really allow everyone to speak, but what we can't allow today is ...

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Is it a point of order?

Ms M C MASINA: Yes ... is to allow the member to mislead the House.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): That's a point of debate, hon Mzwandile. Hon member, order. The hon Mzwandile had his opportunity to debate. Hon member ... the point of order that you have raised ... Order! Order, hon members. There is nothing unparliamentary in calling another member a gentleman. Continue, hon Chance.

Mr R W T CHANCE: I just want to end on the note of this Transformation Fund, which has become a real bugbear to the country because of the fact that it's going to be channelling more money into more state ... yes, it is ... into another

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institution. We still don't know what its governance structure is.

What I appeal to you to do, Minister, is to turn things around. Let's have the investigation into the impact of BEE, and then we can decide on the instruments for enforcing and bringing about the transformation and empowerment of the masses that we need. I thank you.

Mr L MKUTU: Hon Chairperson, today we rise in support of Budget Vote 39 of the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition for the 2026-27 financial year. This budget must be understood within the broader context of rebuilding South Africa's productive economy, advancing industrialisation, creating jobs, and reversing the structural inequalities inherited from the apartheid and colonialism. The department has allocated approximately R11 billion, and this allocation reflects a clear commitment to economic transformation, industrial expansion, localisation, and inclusive growth.

The reality is that South Africa cannot resolve the structural challenges of poverty, unemployment, and inequality, or the concentration and monopoly through the market alone.

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Therefore, government intervention remains absolutely necessary. This is precisely why programmes such as localisation, procurement reform, industrial incentives, black industrialist support, and special economic zones are essential, particularly closer to where the townships are, where those that have been previously disadvantaged are found, and the rural periphery.

Nearly 47% of the department's budget, and approximately R5,4 billion, is allocated towards industrial incentives and support for firms in distress. This is not wasteful expenditure, as some would want to believe.

This is strategic investment aimed at preserving productive capacity, supporting manufacturing, and protecting jobs. Industrialisation remains the foundation of sustainable economic growth. Manufacturing creates decent jobs. Manufacturing builds exports, manufacturing drives technological advancement and manufacturing strengthen national economic sovereignty.

Hon members, the automotive sector remains one of the country's largest sources of foreign exchange earnings, and a

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critical pillar of advanced manufacturing. We must therefore take further action to sustain and protect the existing investments in the sector from the dumping of vehicles that are fully assembled in the South African market.

In the clothing and textile, footwear, and leather sectors, government and private sector investment exceeded about R6,7 billion, and have helped preserve and create thousands of jobs. This we can see in Nelson Mandela, where I come from. I think that hon Minister, more needs to be done to protect this labour-intensive sector that is particularly important for women and the working class communities. We need to tighten our localisation programmes to increase domestic production, reduce import dependency, and to rebuild local manufacturing capacity.

The department has also prioritised the industries of the future by directing support towards green hydrogen, battery manufacturing, renewable energy components, hemp and cannabis commercialisation, and mineral beneficiation. South Africa cannot remain merely an exporter of raw materials while importing finished products at higher costs. We must benefit from our minerals locally.

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We must build downstream industries to create jobs for low-skilled workers and gradually build their productive capability. We must use our natural resources to create local jobs and industrial development and use Special Economic Zones to continue building new economic nodes to attract investment in historically disadvantaged areas.

One of the major constraints on industrialisation has been energy instability. I think that the Deputy Minister would have made this point. The improvement in the electricity supply, therefore, and the significant reduction in loadshedding presents a critical achievement for economic recovery. The economic debate, whether it is load reduction or loadshedding, but there has been stability in the grid, and there has been stable electric supply, which has assisted businesses in improving their productivity.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Order, hon members.

Mr L MKUTU: We do, however, acknowledge that serious challenges remain. But we need to strengthen coordination in the economic cluster for greater economic impact.

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Opposition parties have publicly attacked the ANC government for its policies on black economic empowerment and transformation. We wish to say that in the context of the history of apartheid, which excluded blacks and Africans from meaningful participation in the economy, transformation is not optional. It is a must. There are those that also believe that the state should be less involved and markets should be deregulated, trade liberalised, and the economy should be left to the markets invisible hand. Our sense is that the market on its own will not reverse centuries of exclusion. The deliberate exclusion of majority of our people from ownership, finance, land, skills and industrial participation has left South Africa's economy structurally unequal.

Programmes supporting black industrialist, enterprise development and procurement reform are therefore necessary to broaden participation in the economy. What is required is not the abandonment of transformation, but more efficient implementation, reduced bureaucracy and better coordination. Transformation and growth are not in contradiction and should never be understood in contradiction to each other. They must reinforce one another.

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The African Continental Free Trade Area presents enormous opportunities for South Africa. Africa now accounts for approximately 30% of South Africa's export trade. This creates opportunities for manufactured exports, agro-processing, industrial machinery, automotive exports, and regional industrial value chains.

South Africa must position itself as an industrial hub of the African continent. Now, this integration of economies in Africa goes against what we have been seeing, the narrative of xenophobia in our country, the narratives of pointing the other and creating disunity across the African continent. Because if we are to integrate our economies, firstly, we must learn to coexist with each other. I think that this is important. We are not saying that illegal immigrants must not be taken back to their countries. But we are saying we have got to accept that those that are here in South Africa and that are participating in the economy of South Africa who are legally in the country cannot be subjected to violence and cannot be subjected to abuse. That is a firm principle that we are making.

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This budget therefore reflects the work of a developmental state that is intervening strategically to support industrialisation, expand manufacturing, attract investment and create jobs.

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition remains central to economic transformation, industrial development, investment attraction, export expansion, and inclusive economic participation. The answer to unemployment and inequality is more industrial policy. The answer is stronger industrialisation, deeper localisation, accelerated beneficiation, lower production costs, expanded exports, and broader economic inclusion. For this reason, we wish to support this budget.

Just to answer, and I think that one of my colleagues would have dealt with this matter, hon Boshoff, around the issue of transformation. The issue of South Africa and inequality is a structural issue. It is a structural issue that is inherited from a past of separate development in this country. It cannot be. By the way, the intervention that you are speaking about education and upward social mobility is an intervention to address ...

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The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Fortunately, your time has expired.

Mr L MKUTU: Thank you very much, we support the budget.

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Order, hon members. Order, hon members. Order! Order, hon members. Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF TRADE, IDUSTRY AND COMPETITION: House Chair, maybe to conclude, hon Nkutu's statement. White economic empowerment was brutally enforced in this country. Land dispossession, exploitation, endangered labour, and the list goes on of the brutality that was impacted on the people of this country to maintain white economic empowerment. Now, we are saying, let us reverse it. Let us create equity, let us create equality in this country. You cannot come and say that, in fact, this thing has not worked. It is in fact disingenuous to the people of this country to not only accept that in reality.

If you look at the number of black managers in the public sector, in the private sector, that have gone through the system of being empowered through employment equity programmes

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and successfully leading these companies, and you say, no, we have not done anything, it is because you deliberately choose to misinterpret what economic empowerment has been about. If you look at companies and enterprises that participate in enterprise and supply development programmes throughout the country, and you can look at the whole list of Enterprise and Supplier Development, ESD, programmes and the number of people that are benefiting from these programmes, and you say, we have not achieved and the country is not benefiting from Black Economic Empowerment, it is because you deliberately choose not to know what Black Economic Empowerment is about. But what is more painful is that this is structured such that you seek to demonise black people's participation in the South African economy. It is most unfortunate that you seek to demonise black people's participation in the economy. It is most unfortunate that, in fact, when we say, let us review the policy to enhance its effectiveness, you see it as an opportunity to reverse the policy. No, it is not going to be reversed. It will be enhanced.

IsiXhosa:

Andikuba kakuhle.

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English:

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon members? Hon members? Hon Mketu, shouting is not allowed. You heckle, you heckle, you do not shout. [Interjections.] Order, hon members.

[Interjections.] Order, hon members. Hon Minister, continue.

The MINISTER OF TRADE, IDUSTRY AND COMPETITION: Thank you, hon Chair. Now, when we talk about policies that seek to support South African industry, some of us choose not to accept the reality of what is happening in South African industry and what is happening globally, because in reality, and you talk about the steel example. In reality, the USA imposed a 50% tariff on steel. In reality, the EU next month is imposing a 50% tariff on steel. You said, no, do not incentivise, do not support local steel industry because they must survive on their own whilst everybody is either oversupplying the market or protecting their industry. But you say that to South African industry, government must sit back and do nothing. How do you do that? How do you allow your country to collapse simply because you want to believe in this so-called invisible land of the market, when in fact the reality is that countries are intervening to support their industries?

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The success that we are achieving in the automotive sector, and Mr. Kirby is here from Toyota, he can say, the success that we are achieving is because of the incentives in the automotive sector. Toyota has just committed a R10 billion investment in KwaZulu-Natal to expand its localisation programme. So, you cannot say, well, let us not localise. Let us not support industry to grow. Why would you do that? So, you want our industry to just survive without anti-dumping measures, without trade measures, just so that we can sit and say, well, let things happen. You are all on your own. We will continue to investigate areas where industry says there is injury to our industry, to our sector, because of one, two, three, four.

The International Trade Administration Commission, ITAC, will investigate, it will come back, and we will continue to impose anti-circumvention measures. We will continue to have trade measures to protect South African industry. We cannot just sit back and say South African industry should survive without government's intervention. we will support this industry, and the newly approved industrial development strategy is clear about what needs to be done. It is not only clear about what needs to be done. It is a policy that is matched by an

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implementation plan. So, it is not just theory. It has a direct implement.

IsiXhosa:

Phi?

English:

The CHAIRPERSON (Ms L S Makhubela): Hon Minister, unfortunately your time has expired. [Interjections.] Oder, hon members. Order! Order, hon members. Order, hon members. [Interjections.] Order! Members are reminded that there are two debates that are scheduled simultaneously for 16:45 today, the Basic Education Vote No 16, which will take place in the Good Hope Chamber and the Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, Vote 32, which will take place in Committee Room 46.

Debate concluded.

The mini-plenary session rose at 15:56.