

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 1

TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The House met at Nieuwmeester Dome at 14:01.

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

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

HON MEMBERS: Singing!

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. That was a real honour. I am sure this is a celebration for all of us born between January and June. So, if any of you have never received a birthday message, I give it to you now. Hon members, today we have the budget day of the President of the Presidency, Vote No. 1. I now ask the Secretary to Parliament to read the First Order.

Hon Minister of Energy and Electricity, please take a seat.
thank you very much.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 2

APPROPRIATION BILL

Debate on Budget Vote No 1 - The Presidency:

The PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC: Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Thoko Didiza, Deputy President Paul Mashatile in absentia as he is travelling in India, Ministers and Deputy Ministers, hon members, fellow South Africans,

Tshivenda:

Ndi khou livhuwa tshifhinga tshe nda neiwa tshone u ri ndi vhee Mugaganyagwama wa Muphuresidennde kha Phalamennde ya hashu.

English:

Thirty years ago, the people of South Africa adopted a Constitution that transformed our country from a divided past into a democratic future. That Constitution remains our national covenant. It is the foundation upon which we are building a society founded on freedom, dignity, equality and opportunity for all.

Our Constitution mirrors the hopes and aspirations of the millions of South Africans who played a direct role in

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 3

drafting it. It reflects the desire of our people for a government that is responsive, open and accountable. This Constitution reflects our people's desire for a democracy where all three spheres of government serve the public interest, where power is exercised in accordance with the law, and where those entrusted with authority are subject to scrutiny and oversight.

This Presidency budget Vote is the first to be considered since the National Assembly's Committee on the Presidency was established in December 2025. The Presidency welcomes the establishment of the committee and members of this House can be assured of our full support for the work of this committee.

Strengthening parliamentary oversight is good for transparency, accountability and our democracy. The Presidency occupies a unique place within our government system in that it is not a service delivery department. The Presidency does not build roads, nor does it deliver water or supply medicines to clinics. The Presidency is not simply a co-ordinating institution, it is the strategic centre from which government drives implementation, resolves blockages, mobilises partnerships and ensures that the commitments we make to the people of South Africa are translated into tangible results.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 4

The Presidency's key role is: Firstly, to drive inclusive growth and job creation. Secondly, to reduce poverty and tackle the high cost of living. Thirdly, to build a capable, ethical and developmental state. So, the Presidency ensures that the efforts of departments, provinces, municipalities and social partners are co-ordinated, focused and directed towards the achievement of our developmental objectives.

Because the Presidency's role is strategic rather than operational, its budget necessarily differs from those of frontline departments. Unlike frontline departments whose budgets are primarily directed towards service delivery, the Presidency's mandate is to provide strategic leadership across the entire state. Its resources are therefore invested in long-term planning, policy co-ordination, evidence-based decision-making, performance monitoring and implementation oversight.

These functions are indispensable to ensuring that public resources are used effectively, that government programmes deliver measurable outcomes, and that the priorities of the nation are translated into action.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 5

During the course of this financial year, the Presidency will focus its work on the priorities set out in the State of the Nation Address, Sona. The first priority we set out in the State of the Nation Address, Sona, is to grow the economy and create jobs. Following years of challenges, our economy is on the mend. The macroeconomic environment has improved, tax collection revenues remain strong, public finances are in better shape and national debt has stabilised. Last week, the ratings agency Moodys lifted South Africa's rating outlook from stable to positive. This comes six months after Standard & Poor's lifted South Africa's credit rating for the first time in two decades.

With dedicated investment expertise, the Presidency continues to co-ordinate the national investment drive.

In March we held a successful 6th South Africa Investment Conference, where we secured pledges in excess of R890 billion in industries across the economy. Significantly, a substantial portion of investment commitments were from domestic investors. When local investors show confidence in the prospects of the economy, international investors follow suit.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 6

Economic growth is not an end in itself. Its purpose is to create work, restore hope and expand opportunity. Every investment secured, every infrastructure built and completed, and every reform implemented must ultimately improve the lives of ordinary South Africans.

The Presidency is also working with the relevant department to protect jobs in the auto, cement, steel and other distressed sectors. We have embarked on the largest infrastructure built in South Africa's history. Over the next three years, the state will be investing R1 trillion in building and refurbishing roads, dams, schools, hospitals and clinics, as well as energy, logistics and transportation infrastructure.

Our office is co-ordinating efforts to broaden markets for South African goods. We continue to strengthen our trade relations with our main trading partners, including a number of countries on the African continent, the European Union, the United States and China, while expanding the diversity and volume of our exports to other parts of the world.

For close to two decades, load shedding was one of the single largest constraints to economic growth and social development. Through the National Energy Crisis Committee – and thanks to

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 7

the efforts of Eskom, government departments and social partners - the country has recorded more than a year without load shedding. Eskom has returned to financial and operational viability. New capacity continues to be added to the national grid including from renewable resources. We are now working to bring load reduction experienced by communities in many municipalities to an end.

Through the focused work of Transnet, supported by the National Logistics Crisis Committee, the performance of our railways and ports is improving. More tonnage is being transported and exported. This is helping to ease longstanding bottlenecks across key economic sectors like mining, agriculture and manufacturing.

We are also seeing progress in other economic sectors. For example, between January and March this year, agriculture recorded an 11% increase in export earnings compared to the same period last year. South Africa is now the world's largest exporter of citrus by volume. This achievement should be applauded. We are surpassing several countries known for their citrus exports, such as Spain and various countries in Latin America.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 8

Access to productive land is essential to further grow our agricultural output, create jobs and lift people out of poverty. Over time, government has acquired around 2,5 million hectares of land under the Proactive Land Acquisition Strategy programme. This land has generally been leased to beneficiaries on a short-term basis, which limits their ability to borrow money, and use the land as collateral. It limits their ability to invest in the land, grow agricultural production and contribute to the rural economy.

As part of our efforts to revitalise rural economies, to strengthen land rights and support the inclusion of black farmers in commercial agriculture, we have embarked on a concerted efforted and programme to release leased land with title deeds to deserving beneficiaries.

Recently, I was in the North West where we were handing out land, and the quest of our people was largely that the land must now be handed over to them in title deeds rather than in leased homes. And we are going to respond to this. The Minister of Land Reform and Rural Development will outline the details of the programme to convert agricultural leases to title deeds.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 9

In other areas of the economy, such as tourism, there is significant growth. South Africa recorded 10,5 million international tourist arrivals last year, which is the highest number of visitors on record. In the first quarter of this year, tourist arrivals were up by more than 12% compared to the same period last year. These are some of the indicators of progress in pursuit of inclusive growth that creates jobs. They are the building blocks upon which investments are being secured, and opportunities are being created for the people of South Africa.

Even though there is clear progress, events far from our shores threaten to slow our emerging economic recovery. The attack by the United States and Israel on Iran, and the conflict now engulfing much of the region, have triggered a global oil crisis. The surge in oil prices and other critical supplies such as fertiliser is likely to undermine much of the progress we have made in reducing inflation and the cost of living. Along with disruptions to the global economy, these developments are likely, in the immediate term, to slow economic growth and hamper our efforts to create jobs.

We should anticipate that conditions will be difficult for the next while. These developments are unfolding as the latest

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 10

employment figures from Stats SA show a decline in employment in the last quarter. We know from experience that it often takes time for investment to translate into economic growth, and for growth to translate into jobs. But we must still be deeply concerned about the decline in employment, because it is about people's lives and livelihoods. These difficulties underline the urgency of the work we are doing. We must move faster and with greater focus to implement our priority actions.

Another of the priorities we identified in the Sona is to fight crime and corruption. We continue to rebuild and strengthen our law enforcement agencies, security services, National Prosecuting Authority, and specialised anti-corruption bodies. A critical area of focus is the South African Police Service. We look forward to receiving the final report of the Commission of Inquiry into Criminality, Political Interference and Corruption in the Criminal Justice System which is chaired by Judge Mbuyiseli Madlanga. The findings and recommendations of the commission are expected to bolster our efforts to strengthen the South African Police Service. The work of the commission is already having an impact.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 11

Following the submission of the Commission's first interim report in December last year, the South African Police Service, working with the National Prosecuting Authority, set up a special task team to investigate referrals arising from the commission. This task-team has begun its work in earnest and has already brought a number of cases to court following a number of arrests that have been affected.

We must be unequivocal: public office is a public trust. Those who abuse public resources for private gain betray the Constitution, undermine development and steal from the poor. There will be no tolerance for corruption, regardless of position, status, or political affiliation.

The Presidency continues to oversee and co-ordinate the implementation of the recommendations of the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Allegations of State Capture. Of the 60 actions contained in our implementation plan, 80% are complete, substantially complete or on track. The recoveries by law enforcement agencies linked to the work of the commission now stand at over R17 billions of monies that has been recovered from those who gained it illegally.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 12

Ten new Acts have been passed to close the gaps that state capture exploited. These include Acts to enable prosecution-led investigation of corruption, reform public procurement, professionalise public administration and overhaul our intelligence services. The Cabinet recently approved for public comment a draft Bill to amend the Protected Disclosures Act. This Bill aims to strengthen the protection of whistleblowers and is a vital pillar of our fight against corruption.

The Presidency is at the forefront of mobilising South Africans from all walks of life behind the national effort to end violence against women. It exercises stewardship over the implementation of the National Strategic Plan to combat Gender-Based Violence and Femicide.

In November last year, gender-based violence and femicide was classified as a national disaster, and Cabinet has approved an action plan to tackle this crisis and commit the necessary resources. Prevention is our priority. We are therefore increasing our efforts to promote positive masculinity, focused on boys and young men in schools, communities, and organisations.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 13

We continue to strengthen the response of the police, prosecutors, and courts, and are improving support and care for survivors of gender-based violence.

Another important area is the economic empowerment of women through capacity building, improved access to public procurement and greater involvement in the value chains of key industries in our economy.

As we work to build a safer, more stable, and more prosperous society, we need to address the challenge of migration. When it is well managed and regulated, migration can help drive growth and opportunity for South Africans. However, we need to deal with illegal migration. We have seen how illegal immigration can put pressure on our public services and undermine our efforts to create decent work for all.

As announced in the Sona, government is taking decisive action to address this challenge. We are cracking down on violations of immigration laws. We are increasing our inspections of workplaces and prosecuting employers who violate our labour laws.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 14

We are strengthening border security, stamping out corruption in the immigration system and closing the loopholes in fragmented immigration laws. We must be clear: every person in South Africa - whether they are citizens or foreign nationals must respect our laws, and the rights of every person in our country must be upheld. We must never give in to violence, xenophobia or vigilantism. As a society, we must stand against all forms of disinformation, incitement, racism and ethnic mobilisation.

We will strengthen and enforce our laws, while upholding the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. And also respect the human dignity of all. This will enable us to deal with illegal immigration without turning against one another.

Another critical priority we outlined in the Sona is to urgently resolve the water crisis affecting many parts of the country. Drawing on our experience in ending load shedding, we have established the National Water Crisis Committee. Co-ordinated from the centre of government, the committee has begun implementation of the National Water Action Plan to address weaknesses in the management and delivery of water services. Through the plan, we will pursue both immediate relief and lasting structural reform.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 15

In the short term, national government will intervene directly in municipalities facing acute water failures using existing constitutional and legislative powers. Over the medium to long term, the water delivery model will be overhauled and modernised. Municipalities will be required to ring-fence water revenues so that what consumers pay for water is reinvested directly into fixing pipes, reservoirs and pumping stations, instead of having the revenues for other purposes other than to improve the delivery of water.

We are also working to overhaul local government so that it works for the people of our country. This is vital if we are to improve people's lives. The true test of government is not what happens at the Union Buildings or in the Houses of Parliament. The true test is whether water flows from a tap, whether a streetlight works, whether refuse is collected, whether a road is maintained and whether a community feels safe. That is why fixing local government is among the most urgent priorities of this administration.

It is vital to growing our economy and creating jobs. If the conditions for investment in our cities and towns are unfavourable, if there is a lack of electricity or water or poorly managed infrastructure, investors simply take their

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 16

business and money elsewhere, as we have seen in some of our towns. That is why we continue to prioritise the revitalisation of local government and to support efforts towards finalising the revised White Paper on Local Government.

As we undertake the far-reaching reforms outlined in the White Paper, the Presidency is using the working group model to support large metros. This model brings together the Presidency, municipalities, provincial government, business, state-owned enterprises, SOEs, organised labour and representatives from civil society to implement priority interventions to turn municipalities around.

In 2024, we established the Presidential eThekweni Working Group, and in March last year, the Presidential Johannesburg Working Group. Across all the metros in the country, we have prioritised key reforms to ring-fence revenue in the trading services system that we have established. These reforms will enable greater investment in water, energy and waste management infrastructure to meet the growing service delivery demands in our cities.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 17

Another priority from the Sona is to tackle youth unemployment and overhaul skills development in the country. The Presidency is the co-ordinator of the Presidential Employment Stimulus and the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention. For the current financial year, we will be expanding the National Youth Service under the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention to 100 000 community service youth employment opportunities.

The Presidency also supports the Youth Employment Service initiative led by the private sector, which connects unemployed youth with work experience opportunities. The on-the-job training and skills development that beneficiaries receive through these programmes improves their labour market prospects and prepares them for opportunities to become entrepreneurs.

We are implementing the commitments I made in the Sona to overhaul the skills system. We are working to transition Technical and Vocational Education and Training, Tvet, colleges to offer occupational qualifications with embedded workplace experience, allowing more graduates to transition into employment.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 18

We are also working to rationalise and reform the Sector Education and Training Authority, Seta, system to strengthen industry ownership and reorient the Levy-Grant Incentive structure. The Community Education and Training colleges are being strengthened as pathways into livelihoods, micro-enterprise, and second-chance education. We are focusing on outcomes-based funding by reforming the National Skills Fund and scaling-up of the Jobs Boost Outcomes Fund.

Building a capable, developmental state is both a Sona priority and one of the three strategic priorities outlined in the Medium-Term Development Plan. A strong, capacitated, and professional Presidency is the engine room of the capable, ethical and increasingly digital, developmental state we are striving to build.

We are undertaking a broad range of initiatives to strengthen accountability, promote participatory democracy and deepen intergovernmental co-ordination. We are advancing participatory democracy through the Presidential Imbizos through our provinces.

Through the District Development Model, we are mobilising all spheres of government and local stakeholders to co-ordinate

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 19

planning, budgeting, and service delivery implementation in local government. The Presidency has a central role in advancing South Africa's global and continental agenda. The President and Deputy President continue to participate in outward investment missions together with Ministers as well as various business forums that always accompany us on these outward investment missions.

This is part of deepening economic diplomacy efforts to attract investment in key sectors such as agriculture, critical minerals and manufacturing value chains. A central part of this work is the advancement of the African Continental Free Trade Area, which presents unprecedented opportunities for trade, investment, and industrialisation across the continent.

We continue to support key initiatives of South Africa's G20 Presidency. These include the International Panel on Inequality, which is in the process of being formally established. This year, South Africa will be assuming the Chairship of Southern African Development Community, SADC, and will focus on advancing stability, co-operation and integration across our region.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 20

We will continue to be involved with diplomatic efforts in support of peace processes in areas such as the Eastern DRC, South Sudan and Sudan itself. We continue to use our membership of the G20, Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, BRICS, the Non-Aligned Movement and other bodies to assert the primacy of international law and the centrality of the United Nations in global affairs.

We remain convinced that the right to sovereignty and self-determination be extended to all people, including the people of Palestine, Western Sahara and Cuba.

The country will soon also be embarking on the next phase of the National Dialogue as we strive to chart a new course for our country, by getting our people to be engaged in various dialogues that will be held across the country. These will include ward-based engagements, digital engagements and sectoral dialogues. I call on all South Africans to come together once more and be part of crafting a new vision for South Africa.

The Sona sets out the line of march for all of us. The budget process gives effect to government's plans and programmes for the year ahead. Various departments have presented their

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 21

budgets. Ministers and Deputy Ministers have showed work that they will be doing through their various budgets.

We have sought to outline the role of the Presidency in driving the national priorities. We have sought to demonstrate the value of this strategic co-ordination, the progress that has been made and how we plan to build on that progress in the year ahead. The progress we have made to date is not a product of chance.

It is the result of deliberate state action to drive a structural reform agenda across government and our social partners. The progress we are witnessing owes much to strategic direction from the Presidency to unlock growth and restore investor confidence. Even as our economy recovers, much remains to be done. Local government must be fixed urgently, and the state of service delivery must be improved. Corruption must be eradicated, crime must be eliminated, and government must serve the people, treat them with respect and dignity. Work must continue in earnest. None of us should be deterred by distractions or political intrigue.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 22

The National Executive, Parliament and our courts are mandated to serve the South African people and fulfil the promise of the Constitution. This must be our overriding priority.

In conclusion, I express my gratitude to Deputy President Paul Mashatile, Minister in the Presidency Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, and Deputy Ministers Nonceba Mhlauli and Kenny Morolong, who, through their work in the Presidency, strengthen our resolve. I also thank the Director-General in the Presidency, as well as all the advisers and officials who ensure that this important institution at the heart of government functions effectively.

I commend this budget Vote of the Presidency to the National Assembly and look forward to the debate that will take place throughout the afternoon and into the evening. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Madam Speaker, Your Excellency the President of the Republic of South Africa, hon members and fellow South Africans, I rise on behalf of the ANC to express our unequivocal support for the adoption of Budget Vote No 1 – The Presidency.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 23

We do so because this is not an ordinary Budget Vote. The Presidency is the centre of strategic leadership in the democratic state. It is the institution through which the President, as Head of State and head of the national executive, exercises the constitutional responsibility to uphold, defend and respect the Constitution; to promote the unity of the nation; to co-ordinate the work of the executive; and to ensure that the machinery of government is directed towards the realisation of a better life for all.

When we vote on this budget therefore, we are not merely approving administrative expenditure. We are resourcing the centre of government to co-ordinate delivery, enforce accountability, accelerate reform, rebuild state capacity and give practical expression to the Medium-Term Development Plan's priorities of inclusive growth and job creation, poverty reduction, a capable state and a society founded on human dignity, equality and nonracialism.

We debate this Vote in a year of historic importance. In 2026, South Africa marks 30 years since the signing of the democratic Constitution. This is not a ceremonial milestone. It is a moment to reflect, renew and recommit ourselves to the unfinished task of social and economic transformation.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 24

The Constitution was born out of bitter struggle. It emerged from the long night of colonial dispossession, land conquest, migrant labour, racist exclusion, pass laws, bannings, massacres, detention without trial and the brutal arrogance of a Parliament that once believed it could turn injustice into law simply because the white minority commanded the numbers in the House.

That is why our democracy is not a crude parliamentary democracy in which a majority may do as it pleases. Ours is a constitutional democracy. Parliament makes laws, but the Constitution is supreme. The executive governs, but only under the authority of the Constitution. The courts interpret and enforce the Constitution, not as enemies of our democracy, but as guardians of the compact that the people of South Africa made with one another after generations of division and suffering.

The preamble to the Constitution describes our supreme law as a bridge from a past of deep division, strife, conflict, untold suffering and injustice, towards a future founded on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights. That bridge was not built so that the poor may admire it from a distance. It was built so that the dispossessed, the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 25

unemployed, the landless, women, workers, young people and rural communities may cross into the new society.

It is therefore profoundly mistaken to present the Constitution as an obstacle to transformation. The Constitution is not a brake on transformation; it is the mandate for transformation. It authorises restitution, redistribution and tenure reform. It protects workers. It requires the state to take reasonable measures to advance access to housing, health care, food, water, social security and education. It permits, and indeed demands, measures to overcome the legacy of unfair discrimination.

The failure to fully use the transformative instruments of the Constitution cannot be blamed on the Constitution itself. To blame the Constitution for unemployment, inequality and poverty is to misdiagnose both the history of apartheid colonialism and the practical weaknesses of implementation.

Our task is not to weaken the constitutional order. Our task is to make the Constitution live in the factory, the farm, the township, the rural village, the classroom, the clinic, the police station and the household where dignity is still denied daily.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 26

The ANC does not approach the Constitution as a matter of convenience. We do not celebrate judicial authority only when it flatters us and attack it when it corrects us. A Constitutional Court ... is not an external assault on the democratic state. It is one of the ways in which the Constitution speaks to all arms of the state.

When the court pronounces on parliamentary procedure, executive accountability, the processing of legislation or the obligations of public power, it strengthens our democracy. It reminds ... that no party, no Minister, no official and no institution stands above the Constitution.

That is why the ANC, as the liberation movement that fought for this constitutional order, must be first in line to defend judicial independence, legality, accountability and the separation of powers.

Of course, that does not mean there would be no instances where the movement or even the democratic state would disagree with certain positions adopted by courts. However, there is no contradiction between revolutionary transformation and constitutional discipline. In fact, without discipline, transformation becomes a slogan. Without accountability, power

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 27

becomes patronage. Without the rule of law, the poor suffer first and suffer the most.

This budget is also considered at a time when the world is marked by dangerous fragmentation. Wars, unilateralism, protectionism, debt distress, climate shocks, food insecurity, disinformation and narrow nationalism are reshaping global politics.

South Africa is not insulated from these storms. We have seen attempts, particularly from right-wing quarters abroad and their local echo chambers, to distort South Africa's reality, to weaponise our internal challenges and to punish our country for pursuing an independent international foreign policy. This includes hostility towards South Africa's principled stance on the devastation in Gaza and the case we brought before the International Court of Justice regarding what South Africa has characterised as genocidal conduct by the State of Israel.

However, South Africa must not be bullied into silence. The ANC-led government has placed our country on the side of international law, human rights, multilateralism and the right of all peoples to self-determination. This is consistent with the best traditions of our movement and with the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 28

Constitution's injunction that South Africa should build a united and democratic country able to take its rightful place as a sovereign state in the family of nations.

The legacy of South Africa's G20 Presidency, under the theme of solidarity, equality and sustainability, must be understood in this context. We used that platform to lift the priorities of Africa and the Global South – fair trade, debt sustainability, climate justice, development financing, food security, industrialisation and a more equitable world order. This budget ensures that the Presidency can continue to co-ordinate that global work while strengthening the domestic foundation of our democracy.

Our international role cannot be separated from our African responsibility. South Africa is an economic anchor of Southern Africa, and because of the relative size and sophistication of our economy, our infrastructure, our financial system and our labour market, we are a major receiving country for migrants from the region and the rest of the continent. This is not an accident. It is a product of history, geography, unequal regional development and the continental search by millions of African people for work, safety and dignity.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 29

The ANC's position must be very clear and principled. We reject xenophobia. We reject vigilantism, as the President indicated. However, we reject the demonisation of African migrants too. We also strongly condemn and reject the display ... [Inaudible.] ... of arrogance and contempt from some of our foreign nationals living in our country. No human being should be attacked, humiliated or denied basic rights because of nationality. We must never confuse criminality with nationality. The criminal conduct of the few must never become the identity of an entire people.

At the same time, Pan-Africanism cannot mean that South Africa alone carries every social, administrative and security consequence of regional underdevelopment ... [Applause.] ... and/or irregular migration. Neighbourliness is not a one-sided duty. Sister African governments also have a responsibility towards their citizens who live in our country ... who live, work and trade in South Africa. They have a responsibility to co-operate on documentation, consular support, law enforcement, voluntary return where appropriate, skills partnerships, reintegration and the conduct of their nationals abroad.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 30

We therefore urge all our brothers and sisters on the African continent not to be hasty to condemn South Africa as though the actions of a few define the whole nation. Such an approach risks deepening suspicion, fragmentation on the continent and the isolation of South Africa from the very African solidarity that we all need.

Equally, we urge all South Africans not to surrender to anger, prejudice and vigilantism. The answer is a capable state, lawful migration management, regional co-operation, decent work, secure communities and the rebuilding of local economies.

We must also speak plainly about the role and the actions of the private sector. It is too easy for business to lament instability while avoiding its own responsibility for investment, decent employment and compliance with labour law. There are employers who have exploited the desperation of vulnerable migrants, including undocumented workers, to depress wages, evade benefits, avoid bargaining obligations and weaken the position of South African workers. They then pass the social cost of this conduct to government and municipalities, as well as poor communities.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 31

Mr President, this conduct by some within the business community is entirely unpatriotic. It is economically reckless. A country cannot build social cohesion when desperate people are set against one another in a race to the bottom.

The ANC has always insisted that the dignity of labour is indivisible. A worker is no less worthy because she was born beyond our borders. However, neither must migration be abused to undermine South African workers, trade unions, wage standards and lawful employment.

Corporate South Africa must also answer a larger question. At the same time when communities are desperate for jobs, industrial renewal and local procurement, nonfinancial companies have been holding historically high levels of deposits. Liquidity must become factories, machinery, skills, logistics capacity, township enterprises, agro-processing, renewable energy components, rail rolling stock, water infrastructure and export industries.

The government cannot do the work that is expected alone, but it requires the participation of the private sector. We have a resilient Constitution. We have a democratic institution that

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 32

withstands serious tests. We have a Presidency that must coordinate the rebuilding of the state, the acceleration of reform, the scaling of employment programmes, the defence of the rule of law and the repositioning of South Africa as a confident African state.

By supporting Budget Vote No 1, we choose constitutionalism over chaos, transformation over cynicism, delivery over empty slogans, Pan-African solidarity over xenophobia, lawful migration management over vigilantism and the dignity of work over the despair of the unemployed in our country. The ANC supports Budget Vote No 1 – The Presidency. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Siswati:

Dkt K LITCHFIELD-TSHABALALA: Somlom, gwaza Mkhonto, gwaza! Gwaza Mkhonto, gwaza!

IsiXhosa:

Masibulise emakhaya nakumongameli weMKP, uJacob Zuma nakubaphulaphuli emakhaya.

Siswati:

Atsi Emaswati, cha, hhayi kutsi siyala, asiphumeleli!

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 33

English:

We can never pass this budget with such lofty ideals. Firstly, it grows the economy. You can't grow the economy; Mr President you don't have that power under a neoliberal economy. And a neoliberal economy for us Africans become a neocolonial economy. Because once you liberalise your economy, you know it yourself, you will reduce tariffs, you are going to deregulate, you are going to rely on forex, which is why you are going to tell us about attracting foreign direct investment.

When you do those things, you are going to shut down your local industries in favour of external ones. You are going to face unemployment. Let's look at the textile industry. It's the industry that we were born, were teenagers, in the 80s. That's what supported us. Our mothers worked in factories and firms. From Braamfontein all the way to Doornfontein past Johannesburg, Jeppe, those were textile industries.

From Cape Town all the way to Mowbray, all these areas are ghost towns because after 94, the first decade of 94 when we neoliberalised, we lost at least 150,000 jobs in the textile industry because we lower tariffs from around 30% to two point

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 34

something. How did we do that, when we knew that's the backbone, especially for women in this country?

Now, I want to give you two 36-year-olds. One is now 38, Thomas Sankar and Captain Traore. If you really want us to affirm this budget with the proviso that it will grow the economy, throw off the yoke of neoliberalism. [Applause.] Put South Africans first in terms of the economy. Sankara has a phrase, He says:

We choose between champagne for all and water for few. Or champagne for few and water for all.

I had to ask the young people in my party. Clearly the ace of spades has been flowing in high echelons in this country. Because we can't provide water for all. And even the water we provide has no quality. It breaks your heart to go to a municipal level, and you see how drinking water is mixing with sewerage. And we don't even have a plan to clean that water.

We've done the worst under your two terms actually. Even this bottled water is scary for me because the South African Bureau of Standards role has been shrinking and shrinking. We don't know how much plastic we are drinking in this water. So, you

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 35

moved us from water that was deemed the best in '94. Tourists who came here said, South Africans, why drink bottled water? You have the best water. It is clean. We are now reliant on bottled water, which is not even properly checked if it is up to standard in terms of the plastic that's melting into the water.

Now, look at infrastructure. And there's nothing you can do about it, really. You can give us lofty promises. I don't know if we should even call it infrastructure. We've become a country of potholes. In big cities like Johannesburg and Pretoria, so how does the rural area look? If that's how it looks there.

Unemployment; I'm only looking at one category of young people - 24 to 34. It's sitting at 40%. And then we are telling us we are going to grow the economy. How? Because though we are reliant on borrowing and we are reliant on foreign direct investment, when they come here to invest, they give you conditions that suit them, that do not suit us, which is why we have such a high-rising unemployment of young people. So, how will you grow this economy? [Applause.]

Another quotation that I like by Sankara still, Sankara says:

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 36

Africa is not developing because Africans are not mad enough.

Well, I'm looking at you. I don't think we are mad enough to deliver the growth of this economy. [Applause.] Your, two terms have not assured me that you will because you refuse to decouple yourself from neoliberalism. You still want to believe in macroeconomics. Like we are told now that the gross domestic product, GDP, is growing actually amongst its highest. We are told inflation is steady, actually amongst its lowest.

See the dilemma of a macroeconomic economy, which is a neoliberal economy, is that it works for multinational corporations, not for the poor. Because despite that GDP and that inflation, the cost of living is high and it's escalating.

Lord, in your tenure, Mr President, you have managed to do the impossible. You shut down Vilakazi Street. It's a ghost town. Township economy is at a grinding halt. People don't have money. So, these small and medium businesses are dying at the expense of transnational corporations. How are you going to

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 37

grow the economy when you are championing a neoliberal agenda?
The two don't mix.

Look at the fiscal policy that you champion. See the contradictions. That's the law of neoliberalism. It is riddled with contradictions for the poor.

We are told that our personal income tax system is one of the most progressive ones in the world. But it relies on regressive taxation. Regressive taxation are taxes that continue to tax the poor more while the rich are getting richer. Like value added tax, VAT, like fuel levy, taxing alcohol, taxing cigarettes. The people are so poor. We are punishing them for the little comfort they are trying to get. Taxing sugar.

While are multinationals doing what? Tax evasion. They are transferring their profits abroad without us taxing them adequately. They are price misinvoicing. We are not building the SA Revenue Service, Sars that taxes corporates adequately. We are focusing on building the sales structure that's taxing individuals. So, to work in South Africa is a crime because you bear the brunt of taxation.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 38

We lose annually, Mr President, from illicit financial flows, this loose corporate tax system we are running, an estimate of at least R100 billion. And that's in the cigarette industry, only, I'm not talking the other areas. Imagine if we halved that, how much difference it would make in the tax brackets of ordinary people. We will lower taxation.

You want MK to confirm this budget, talk to us about lowering taxation of individuals. [Applause.] Talk, to us about lowering personal income tax and taxing multinationals. Then we shall stand here and say, oh, the ANC is alive. It has come back. So, we'll support you.

At the moment you are running a national congress, the Africans is dead. So, we can't support this because we are standing for Africans. [Applause.]

And then you tell us you are going to dismantle criminal syndicates. How? The criminal syndicates are in your house. How are you going to dismantle them? They are in your living room. How will you dismantle them? They are under the sofa. They are in the constitutional and the legal system. They are in the municipalities; they're in the police. I mean, in the defence force, whole caches of arms go missing. How are we

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 39

running a defence force where people can just break in and steal weapons? [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon member! Hon Tshabalala, can you just take your seat. There is a member who wants to raise a point of order. Order, hon Tshabalala there is a seat here. Okay, ... [Interjection.]

Dr K LITCHFIELD-TSHABALALA: It's on the other side.

The SPEAKER: Okay, we will provide for the other seat.

Mr T B MUNYAI: Hon Speaker, I rise on Rule 85. The hon member cast expansion that in the House of the President there are criminals in it.

The SPEAKER: Hon member, thank you very much. I've noted your point of order, but my understanding, and that can be checked, is that "you" was in reference not to an individual, but generally.

Dr K LITCHFIELD-TSHABALALA: You know, these interruptions do not actually tamper with my trail of thought because it's not me speaking its ancestors. So, let's continue. Mr President,

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 40

if you really want us as MK Party to support this budget, Africanise it. Get in touch with your Afrocentric side I know you lost it long ago but it's not a lost course, you can still get it back.

IsiZulu:

Gwaza Mkhonto, gwaza! Gwaza Mkhonto, gwaza!

English:

Vote MK Party, vote! Vote MK Party, vote! Amandla, progressive Alliance, Amandla!

Mr G MICHALAKIS: Madam Speaker, happy birthday. Madam Speaker, Mr. President, the first duty of any democratic government is not merely to govern, but to protect. It is to create the conditions in which citizens may live freely, pursue opportunity and enjoy the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution.

Freedom is precious. Yet no society can exist where every individual exercise absolute freedom without restraint. In a constitutional democracy, citizens willingly surrender a measure of that freedom in exchange for something greater, the protection of their lives, their liberty and their property

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 41

under the rule of law. This is the essence of the social contract. It is the foundation upon which every democratic state rests and it is the standard against which every government must ultimately be judged. When the state fails in this responsibility, the consequences are devastating. Not only are lives lost, but public confidence in government, democracy and the Constitution itself begins to erode. That is why the crisis within South Africa's criminal justice system is not merely a departmental failure. It is a failure of governance. It strikes at the heart of the state's most fundamental obligation to its people.

If we are serious about changing the trajectory of our country, if we are serious about restoring faith in public institutions, then we must confront an uncomfortable truth. Our criminal justice system is failing at almost every level. On average, 58 South Africans lost their lives every day to violence and are still losing their lives. Behind every statistic is a human story. A child whose future has been stolen, a parent who will never return home, a family permanently shattered. Yet while communities live in fear, we are confronted by a police service whose senior leadership has repeatedly been tainted by allegations of corruption and misconduct.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 42

At station level, officers often lack the most basic resources required to perform their duties effectively. Cases that do make it to court are too frequently hampered by incomplete investigations, inadequate prosecution capacity and overwhelming case backlogs. Beyond this lies a correctional services system unable to account for more than 28 000 parolees, while many offenders emerge from incarceration more dangerous than when they entered. The result is a criminal justice chain that is breaking at every link from investigation to prosecution to incarceration and ultimately to rehabilitation. This is not merely an administrative concern, Mr. President. It is a profound constitutional failure. When the President says he is prepared to face the mothers who have lost children to gang violence, he makes a serious statement. But the question before us is not whether he can face them.

The question is whether the state has done everything within its power to prevent those losses in the first place. Can any of us honestly say that it has? Every day that passes, another 58 South Africans lose their lives. These are not abstract figures on a spreadsheet. They are sons and daughters raised with hope and love. They are mothers and fathers who worked tirelessly to provide for their families. They are elderly

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 43

citizens who spent a lifetime contributing to society. They are vulnerable children who fall prey to predators because the state has failed to shield them from exploitation and violence. They relied upon government to keep them safe. And that is why this matter is inherently political, not in the narrow partisan sense, but in the truest sense of public responsibility.

Every preventable death reflects decisions made priorities chosen, and policies pursued by those entrusted with governing. If a functioning criminal justice system could save even one innocent life, Mr. President, it would be worth every effort. But we are not speaking of one life, we are speaking of thousands. This is why it is so difficult to understand the resistance to practical alternatives that could strengthen the public safety. What has been propose, it is not the weakening of the state, but the strengthening offered. It is not the fragmentation of authority, but the mobilisation of all available capacity in service of a common purpose.

Provinces and capable metropolitan governments have repeatedly called for greater powers to investigate crime, gather intelligence, manage forensic functions, and develop targeted responses to local crime patterns. This is not a demand for

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 44

separation. It is an offer of partnership. Where local governments have been empowered to act within their existing mandates, initiatives such as Law Enforcement Advancement Plan, LEAP, officers and community safety programmes have delivered measurable results. Yet their impact remains constrained by legislative limitations imposed by national government.

THE SPEAKER: Order, hon Michalakakis. Hon Reddy what is your point of order.

Mr V G REDDY: Hon Speaker, as the MK Party, we also want to take this opportunity of wishing you a happy birthday.

[Applause.]

SPEAKER: And you missed it in the beginning.

Mr G MICHALAKIS: Madam Speaker, while the DA is talking about children losing lives, the MK is singing happy birthday like fools. What is required now is a willing ... [Inaudible.] ... to cooperative governance.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon Michalakakis. Point of order, hon Douglas?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 45

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Hon Speaker, I rise on Rule 84, point of order. Members using unbecoming and parliamentary language in violation of Rule 84 by calling us fools as Members of Parliament. I would like him to withdraw. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Order is sustained. Hon Michalakis, please withdraw that statement.

Mr G MICHALAKIS: Madam Speaker, I withdraw. However, I must say.

An HON MEMBER: Unconditional, chief.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr G MICHALAKIS: Madam Speaker, I said like fools. I did not call them fools.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon member. Can you please withdraw?

Mr G MICHALAKIS: I have withdrawn, Madam Speaker. I am just puzzled as to who I insulted, the fools or the MK.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 46

The SPEAKER: Order, hon Michalakakis. I think let's just withdraw and you proceed.

Mr G MICHALAKIS: I withdraw, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr G MICHALAKIS: The Constitution already provides for cooperative governance. What is needed is the political will to give political effect to that principle. The reforms required, Mr. President, do not demand constitutional amendments. They require legislative changes and a simple recognition that every capable institution of government should be empowered to contribute to protecting South Africans. If the President truly believes that this issue should rise above politics, then let us engage these proposals on the merits.

Let us ask one simple question. Will they save lives? Because that is the measure by which history will judge us. If I were entrusted with the responsibility of addressing this crisis, I would marshal every available resource, every sphere of government, every civil organisation and every capable

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 47

stakeholder in pursuit of a single objective, reducing violent crime and saving lives.

No party-political consideration should outweigh the duty. No ideology should be more important than the life of a child. No loyalty should supersede accountability. And that accountability might extend to those whose actions or inactions have contributed to the weakening of our Police Service, our Prosecuting Authority, our Specialised Investigative Unit, our court and our correctional system. South Africans deserve a government that confronts failure not one that recycles it.

I do not believe that the President takes pleasure in the loss of a single South African life. I do not doubt that he shares in the grief felt by countless families across the nation. But compassion alone, Mr. President, is not enough. The office he occupies carries immense power and profound responsibility.

Through decisive leadership, principled decision-making and meaningful reform, lives can be saved. The people of South Africa deserve a government that can look them in the eye and say truthfully that it has done everything within its power to

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 48

protect them. They deserve a government that treats every preventable death as a call to action.

They deserve a government that understands that public safety is not merely another policy priority. It is the very foundation upon which freedom, dignity and democracy depend. It is not too late, Mr. President. I thank you, Madam Speaker.

Mr M N PAULSEN: Speaker, many happy returns to you. Greetings to the commander in chief, the officials of the EFF, commissars, fighters, the members of the congress of the left, revolutionary forces across Africa.

Afrikaans:

Vandag debateer ons

English:

Mr C M DUGMORE: Speaker, my point of order is the following: The hon member always greets the commander in chief, who is never in the House, but he still greets him.

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, that is not a point of order. Thank you. You can proceed.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 49

Afrikaans:

Mnr M N PAULSEN: Vandag debateer ons die toesig oor die Presidentskap van Cyril Ramaphosa se administrasie wat fundamenteel losgemaak is van die nasionale krisis van misdaad, xenofobie en verantwoordbaarheid.

English:

President, I just quickly want to go back to a previous life when I worked in my first job as an actuarial clerk at Southern Life. I was tasked to prepare the actuarial reports for the pension and provident funds for the National Union of Mineworkers. My colleagues spoke glowingly about the General Secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers. Almost all of them idolised him. So, when you took the reins on 15 February 2018, I was one of those that expected a different trajectory for this country.

So, today, Mr President, I want to give a quick evaluation of your Presidency based on the committee reports. There are stark discrepancies between the core planning documents of the Presidency, suggesting an administration in internal conflict. The annual performance plan lists a total budget of R0 for the 2026-27 financial year. In contrast, the budget report details a Budget Vote 1 allocation of R816,8 million. The budget

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 50

report refers to the strategic plan as the 2025-26 plan, while the strategic plan itself identifies it as the 2026-30 plan. The APP sets a target to assess only 50% of socioeconomic impact assessment reports submitted to Parliament. The budget report states that Program 3 aims to ensure 80% of socioeconomic impact assessment reports are analysed. The APP targets three Sona tracking reports annually, but the budget report's recommendations specifically ask for biannual reports.

These contradictions mirror the state of your Presidency, Mr Ramaphosa. It is a hot mess. Mr President, we thought your greatest legacy would have been taking the apartheid state of Israel to the International Court of Justice, ICJ, but that boldness faded because you still have not implemented this Parliament's resolution to expel the Israeli ambassador from South Africa. That motion was passed on 21 November 2023, two and a half years ago. But that is the characterisation of your leadership, one of shock and inaction, like a deer caught in the headlights.

President Ramaphosa, your administration has an inability to diagnose the depth of national despair. On 1 May, you again expressed astonishment and confusion at the ANC's declining

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 51

support. It is like that day in the Oval Office when Donald Trump played a video of the EFF's 10th anniversary. And instead of discussing bilateral relations with the United States, you took the instructions to persecute the commander in chief of the EFF.

In the book, *The Pitfalls of National Consciousness*, Frantz Fanon warns of a national bourgeoisie like the ANC that will use a nostalgic approach to draw legitimacy from the past while overseeing the decay of essential services.

Afrikaans:

Fanon het opgemerk dat leiers dikwels die massas paai en hulle vra om terug te val in die geskiedenis, terwyl hulle hongersly.

English:

The ANC had an opportunity to attend the Conference of the Left and join all progressive forces in South Africa in coming up with a plan to build a viable socialist alternative to the current GNU. Just like the ANC was a late signatory to the Freedom Charter, a document they now claim to own, we remain hopeful that you will join the Council of the Left. The ANC

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 52

did also not attend the Congress of the People in Kliptown in 1955.

Afrikaans:

Jou administrasie se premêre reaksie op die bloed, wat op die Kaapse Vlakte vloei, waar 157 kinders oor vyf jaar in bende-geweld vermoor is, was die herhaalde ontplooiing van die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Weermag onder Operasie Prosper. Terwyl die regering geweld projekteer, ly misdaadbrandpunte soos Mitchells Plain, Manenberg, Delft en Gugulethu onder massiewe hulpbronnuitputting.

English:

Reliable soldiers to stem the increasing violence is like putting a plaster on a gaping gunshot wound.

Afrikaans:

Die EFF se beroep op elke Suid-Afrikaner, jonk en oud, wat gebuk gaan onder hierdie GNU [Regering van Nasionale Eenheid], die toenemende werkloosheid, die gewelddadige en onveilige lewensomstandighede, en die gebrek aan basiese dienste soos, skoon drinkwater en bekostigbare elektrisiteit, is om seker te maak dat hulle geregistreer is om op 4 November 2026 hierdie ANC uit elke munisipaliteit te stem. Baie dankie.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 53

IsiZulu:

Inkosi R N CEBEKHULU: Angibonge Mhlonishwa Somlomo, Mhlonishwa Mongameli neNdlu yonke.

English:

The Presidency is not a department responsible for delivering a specific service. It is the centre of government tasked with ensuring that departments work together, that policy is coherent, and that commitments made to the people of South Africa are translated into action. For this reason, Budget Vote 1 should not be measured by the number of programmes it administers, but by whether the government as a whole is functioning more effectively because of its leadership, Mr. President.

There are weaknesses in oversight at the centre of government that create systemic risks, including fragmented priorities, inconsistent policy signals and diluted accountability. There are realities that South Africans experience every day when government fails to deliver.

The IFP welcomes the Presidency's effort to strengthen executive co-ordination, improve policy and coherence, and professionalise the public service. The establishment of the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 54

Head of Public Administration function has the potential to strengthen merit-based administration, improve stability within the public service and reduce the disruption caused by instant leadership challenges.

South Africa desperately needs a capable state built on competency, professionalism and integrity. It has been observed that the state of the nation address tracking tool has underachieved. This is particularly troubling because the Presidency cannot effectively oversee government commitments if it cannot effectively track them. South Africans have heard many promises over the years. What they want now is evidence that those promises are being fulfilled.

There are delays in major infrastructure projects, weaknesses in contract management and slow progress in implementing key reforms. Delayed infrastructure means delayed economic growth and poor contract management, wastes public resources. Slow implementation of reform undermines investor confidence and limits job creation.

The government must develop stronger digital monitoring systems for infrastructure projects and contracts performance. A government that is serious about accountability must be able

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 55

to identify failures early and intervene before projects collapse or cost escalates.

There are concerns regarding cyber security vulnerabilities across government institutions. As the government increasingly relies on digital systems, protecting public information and ensuring continuity of services becomes essential. The Presidency must play a stronger co-ordinating role in ensuring that departments are adequately prepared to respond to cyber threats and data breaches.

The IFP is equally concerned about the slow pace of lifestyle audits and continuing questions surrounding ethical conduct in the public sector. South Africans are tired of hearing about corruption after the fact. They want a system that prevents corruption, detect misconduct early and ensure swift consequences for those who abuse public office.

The Presidency has a responsibility to probe coherence and discipline within the executive and to ensure that the government communicates with clarity and purpose. There is a growing threat posed by the illicit economy. Illicit trade undermines legitimate business, reduces tax revenue, fuels organised crime and destroys employment opportunities. We

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 56

believe that this challenge requires a co-ordinated national response and that the Presidency should play a leading role in ensuring that the departments work together to combat this threat.

The IFP will continue to hold the Presidency accountable, ensure that it delivers on its mandate and that public resources produce measurable outcomes for the people of South Africa. On this basis, the IFP will support Budget Vote 1.

Thank you.

Mr M V DANIELS: Good afternoon, Deputy Speaker, the hon President, all Ministers, colleagues, and fellow South Africans, we are exceptionally grateful. We are grateful and thankful for dealing with our cry when it comes to illegal and undocumented foreigners. The issue must never be with foreigners because we welcome tourists into the Republic of South Africa, but all over the globe we find that anybody illegal or undocumented is dealt with in accordance with the law of that country. So, there is absolutely nothing wrong in the patriotic lines saying "abahambe" [let the go], in particular to the undocumented and illegal foreigners.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 57

The lifting of the rating through Moody's is a positive and very exciting thing that we experience as South Africans. It is reflective, from stable to positive. It's reflective, it's a mirror image of what the GNU projects to South Africa. So, we are very grateful for that.

As the Head of State and that of the National Executive, the President plays a critical role with national development objectives amongst many other leadership responsibilities. Therefore, the PA rises in support of this Budget Vote No 1, believing also that this Budget is very modest. It is very economical, and we believe that the President can do with a bit more funding, considering the responsibilities in the office of the Presidency. We support this Budget Vote because South Africa needs a Presidency that is capable, responsive, and focused on delivering results for our people.

The Presidency remains the nerve centre of government; hence, our position to support what we see is working. The allocation of R1,9 billion is a necessary investment in governance. We welcome the funding, albeit our view is that it's too economical, and it is directed towards the fight against corruption through institutions such as the SIU, National Prosecuting Authority, Investigative Directorate, and South

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 58

Africans are tired of corruption robbing communities of services, hon President.

Jobs and opportunities are what we see and thank you for your address to the nation. Because we see that you are committed to turning the corner, and therefore we thank you and the executive. Respectfully, I will say our support does not mean silence. Too often, government measures success by a number of meetings held, reports produced, and dashboards created. The people of South Africa do not live on reports. They live in communities where service delivery either works or does not work. Thank you again for committing to turning the corner in that aspect, as per your submissions earlier on, hon President.

We thank the Presidency, who's moved beyond monitoring and become this driving force for implementation. We need struggling municipalities to accelerate infrastructure projects and ensure that government commitments translate into tangible results. The PA therefore thanks the Presidency for the commitment to strengthen, to support municipalities that are failing residents, to ensure that performance indicators are linked to real service delivery outcomes, and to hold departments accountable when targets are missed.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 59

Thank you for the initiatives in aid of our youth work skills experiences. We really welcome that understanding that our youth is looking forward and crying out for help, and they also are very, very, very much responsive to your address, hon President. We support because of effective leadership that matters. We support because we're fighting corruption, as we can see. We support because co-ordination and accountability matter. Our support comes with an expectation that every rand spent must contribute to improving the lives of the Africans and restoring confidence in government. We thank you, Mr President. PA is in full support.

Dr C P MULDER: Hon Madam Deputy Speaker, today we deal with Budget Vote No 1- The Presidency. Mr President, it is a common cause that you and your Presidency are currently under pressure. There are direct attempts to remove you as Head of State in terms of section 89(1) while others pursue options in terms of section 102(2) to pass a Motion of No Confidence.

All of this is directly linked to the Phala Phala issue. This issue does have the potential to taint your legacy and to paralyse the remaining almost three years of your presidency. I know that you do not need any advice from me, but my advice

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 60

would be to deal with this issue decisively and with haste.

Put the truth and facts on the table and move on.

Mr President, the executive authority of the Republic is vested in you. You with the Cabinet and the GNU are responsible for developing and implementing national policy. That includes our international relations policy. *The Measures and Guidelines for Enhanced Co-ordination of South Africa's International Engagements*, approved by Cabinet in 2009, to establish more effective measures to conduct our international relations and the implementation of South Africa's foreign policy needs a total overhaul. This is urgent. The world and a lot of things have changed since then.

I believe South Africa needs to recalibrate aspects of our US policy. The US remains the largest economy in the world, with the strongest military too. It is positive that both countries are now represented on an ambassadorial level. A reset in relations with Washington that includes a spectacular new deal can and should be to our benefit and should be a priority.

Let us address the outstanding issues that have prevented this possible spectacular deal until now. You know which issues I am referring to Mr President. If you and the GNU can succeed

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 61

in this, I can assure you that the current pressures on your Presidency will pale into insignificance. It will pale into insignificance because the benefits will be there to see and experience for millions of South Africans.

At the heart of a new deal should be a pact on critical minerals. South Africa could open strategic access to exploration, mining, and especially refining of platinum group minerals, manganese, vanadium, rare earths, and titanium. The US could match this with long-term offtake commitments, targeted reserve build programmes, and financing for processing capacity that goes beyond resource headlines, to actual throughput.

A Johannesburg-based Critical Minerals Exchange Hub, linked to US commodity markets could price, hedge, and de-risk flows. The strategic payoff would be immediate. The US secures trusted supplies for electrical vehicles, aircraft, and advanced manufacturing while South Africa positions itself as a global processing and trading hub, not just a mine pit at the end of another country's value chain. A US-SA-Middle East hub for mining technology, supply chain traceability, and AI-driven monitoring, will draw investment from US private equity firms and Gulf sovereign wealth funds.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 62

A minerals first deal offers spectacular returns. For South Africa, it could lift GDP by \$40 billion and create about 500 000 jobs across mining, processing, energy, logistics, and services. The fixed investment rate would rise from 15% to 25%, enabling growth of 5% per year and halving unemployment over time. That is what we need now.

Mr President, our people are desperate for jobs. Such a transformation would stabilise South Africa and secure democracy. There is no comparable alternative trade deal that could make this possible. For the US, direct gains from minerals, LNG exports, technology, and agricultural investments could exceed \$75 billion. Such outcomes would justify reducing South Africa's general tariff rate to 10% and keeping its privileges under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, AGOA.

Mr President, I believe that the Government of National Unity and the South African private sector are faced with a unique opportunity. With an open door to the White House, this is the opportune time to secure a watershed deal. One that will deliver for generations to come.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 63

You started your Presidency in Feb 2018 and said "Thuma mina" - send me. Mr President, your mission is not concluded. You can secure your legacy, our democracy and bring prosperity, jobs and safety to millions of South Africans. I believe that Afrikaners and the Freedom Front Plus can assist in making this happen. Once again, here is my hand. Let's do this. Thank you, Sir.

Ms T A KHANYILE: Hon Deputy Speaker and hon members, from the words of Kofi Annan, I quote:

Violence against women is perhaps the most shameful human rights violation. It knows no boundaries of geography, culture or wealth.

For the 2026-27 financial year, the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities receives an overall budget allocation of R2,2 billion, of which R1,8 billion will be transferred to the National Youth Development Agency and R111,3 million to the Commission for Gender Equality. This will leave the Department with approximately R288 million for its own operations for 2026-27. This is approximately R48 million more than in 2025-26 of the budget that was allocated previously.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 64

The allocation of R288 million to the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities must be viewed against the vast mandate it carries. The department is expected to advance the rights and empowerment of women, youth, persons with disabilities, and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, and asexual/aromantic, LGBTQIA+, community while co-ordinating government-wide efforts to achieve equality and inclusion.

While we acknowledge fiscal constraints, this budget raises concerns about whether the department is adequately resourced to address pressing challenges such as gender-based violence and femicide, youth unemployment, discrimination and social exclusion. We must strengthen protections for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, and asexual/aromantic, LGBTQIA+, community by combating hate crimes, ensuring equal access to healthcare, education, employment and public services, and promoting awareness to eliminate discrimination and prejudice. Most importantly, equality and inclusion cannot be the responsibility of one department alone. Every government department must be held accountable for advancing the rights and dignity of all South Africans.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 65

The Presidential Youth Employment Initiative has delivered meaningful results by creating over 1,5 million earning opportunities since 2020 and providing much-needed work experience to young people. However, while the initiative has offered hope and relief to many, it cannot be viewed as a complete success when youth unemployment remains alarmingly high. The challenge before us is to move beyond temporary opportunities and create sustainable, long-term jobs that restore dignity and economic freedom to our youth. Youth unemployment remains extremely high at around 60% nationally for youth aged between 15 and 35. Many opportunities are temporary rather than permanent.

Hon President, let me paint a picture of what young unemployed people go through on the ground. Vusimuzi - not his real name - lives with his brother who is the only person with an income. He is only allowed to have one meal per day because he is accused of wasting food when he eats more than once. All this happens because every month when he gets his grant of R350, he has to make a very difficult choice between buying food, buying cosmetics or save it to use for public transport as he keeps searching for unemployment.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 66

Hon members, we also need to establish a robust monitoring and evaluation tool to determine whether every rand allocated to the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative is achieving its intended objectives. Without proper oversight and measurable outcomes, simply throwing money at the problem will not reduce the rate of youth unemployment. We must be able to track how funds are spent, how many sustainable jobs are created and what impact these interventions have on the lives of young people. Without accountability, we risk creating opportunities for corruption where funds disappear while the unemployment crisis persists.

As unemployment continues to rise, many young people lose hope and become vulnerable to social ills such as substance abuse, crime and poverty. We therefore have a responsibility to ensure that every investment made in youth employment delivers real results and creates pathways to sustainable economic participation.

Girl learners can lose up to seven days of schooling every month due to a lack of access to sanitary products. This is why Parliament introduced the Sanitary Dignity Programme for learners in Quintile 1-3 schools. However, a recent report from the Department of Social Development revealed that in

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 67

Lekwa, only six out of 20 schools are receiving sanitary towels. This raises serious concerns about whether funds allocated for this programme are reaching their intended beneficiaries. It is for this reason that we have written to the National Treasury requesting that funds allocated for sanitary dignity packs be ring-fenced to ensure they are used solely for their intended purpose. No girl child should be forced to miss school because she cannot afford sanitary products. Access to these products is a matter of dignity, equality and educational opportunity.

In conclusion chair, we concluded the interviews and submitted the proposed names of individuals to serve on the National Council for Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, NCGBVF, in March this year. To date those appointments have not been made. We urge the president to appoint the board members urgently so that it can be able to start to do its work to assist us deal with the scourge of gender-based violence. I thank you.

Mrs D E MPAPANE: Hon Deputy Speaker, His Excellency the President, and the Deputy President in absentia, hon Ministers, colleagues, our guests in the gallery, I greet you all.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 68

Hon Deputy Speaker, Budget Vote 1 of the Presidency remains an important instrument of government aimed at supporting the continued constitutional responsibilities of nation building and freeing the potential of all South Africans.

The Presidency, which is widely known as the centre of government, is charged with the responsibility of turning possibility into progress and the country's vision into tangible societal transformation agenda for the betterment of all South Africans.

Statistics South Africa persistently accounts for the country's high level of unemployment, poverty, and inequality. This evidence-based data reminds us that government planning, coordination, and oversight roles are not abstract administration functions. They remain the instrument which the state must use to improve the lives of millions of South Africans.

The centre of government is not merely measured by the power it holds, but by the lives it improves. Allow me to borrow the words of Lee Kuan Yew, who said:

"The future is not built by chance, it is built by design."

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 69

The seventh administration should embrace and intensify efforts to accelerate effective implementation of government plans, policies, programmes, in order to deliver services to the citizens. South Africans measure government performance by assessing outcomes and their lived conditions, such as the provisions of services, quality health care, quality education, safety and security, reliable and affordable electricity, water provision, a government that fights corruption, and whether public institutions work for the benefit of the people. They do not measure government by its own plans, policies, or programmes.

Hon Madam Deputy Speaker, the Presidency carries a profound constitutional responsibility to give direction for the realisation of hopes and aspiration of society by ensuring that government systems deliver on the electoral mandate contained in the Mid-Term Development Plan and the National Development Plan.

The President outlined government priorities during the 2026 state of the nation address. All state institutions are therefore expected to implement Sona commitments as outlined.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 70

Madam Deputy Speaker, the 2026 state of the nation addressed reaffirmed government priorities and emphasised accelerated implementation, infrastructure reform, professionalisation of the public service, and strengthened consequence management, thereby reinforcing central coordination role of the Presidency.

The success of any government and the implementation of its key strategies and reforms depends on the centre of government coordinating efforts to achieve priority outcomes. To strengthen accountability and ensure the effective implementation of government commitments, we fully support the development of digital tracking tool in the form of a dashboard to monitor the implementation of all major projects and the Mid-Term Development Plan, MTDP.

We call for the acceleration of the dashboard as part of enhancing monitoring and enabling agile intervention by the Presidency. They will enable legislatures and members of the public to measure progress, promote transparency, and accountability. The public service should embrace the role of digitalisation and artificial intelligence.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 71

The government needs to have an artificial intelligence, AI use policy to avoid the embarrassment we experienced in the past month. E-governance improves government services by making them more accessible, faster, and more responsive. South Africans are ready to access government services online rather than traveling long distances to government offices, which are often characterised by long queues and administrative burdens.

However, digital transformation must be accompanied by efforts to bridge the digital divide to ensure that rural communities, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable groups are not left behind. The rural network quality must be accelerated to ensure communities have access to reliable, affordable broadband connectivity. Your Excellency, the full benefits of the release of the spectrum are yet to be experienced in our schools and public facilities.

For example, the wonderful programme of the free public Wi-Fi in Tshwane, which was introduced by the then former executive mayor, the hon Minister Ramokgopa, which has ceased to exist after he left office. We must re-examine the intervention and ensure all towns, cities, and villages have access to free

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 72

public Wi-Fi. It is necessary to grow our digital economy and increase equitable opportunities for South Africans.

Issues relating to cyber security vulnerabilities across the state institutions, many of which lack adequate response capabilities, require a more coordinated rapid response. For example, it has been alleged that the City of Ekurhuleni lost approximately R2 billion due to a combination of cyber-enabled manipulation of its billing system, electricity meter tampering, and alleged insider collusion. The government must strengthen cyber security measures and investigative capabilities to avoid similar situations.

Madam Deputy Speaker, one of the most important aspects of policy coordination concerns is regulatory coherence.

Operation Vulindlela is one of the most fundamental and impactful programmes established under the stewardship of His Excellency President Ramaphosa through a collaboration between the Presidency and the National Treasury.

Phase one of the programme has indeed yielded significant improvements for the country. However, Parliament will ensure that South Africans continue to experience tangible

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 73

improvements in their daily lives by conducting effective oversight of the Operation Vulindlela programme.

South Africans have already noticed improvements resulting from the programme, including the elimination of loadshedding. Operation Vulindlela has strengthened energy security, increased tourism, expedited water rights release, and enhanced economic confidence under the leadership of the President Ramaphosa.

We welcome your focus on fixing local government, the Presidential eThekweni Working Group and the Presidential Johannesburg Working Group are critical measures for the Presidency to get our cities working. We are confident that the implementation of the trading services model will contribute to improving basic service provision.

We support the process of the review of the White Paper on Local Government, and we believe that a restructured local government fiscal framework will contribute to improving municipal performance and impact through increased capital investment.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 74

The programme has demonstrated the importance of removing structural barriers that inhibit economic growth and undermine investor confidence. Through its oversight role, Parliament will ensure that the momentum of these reforms is sustained, implementation bottlenecks are addressed, and responsible institutions are held accountable for delivering on their commitments. We intend to provide rigorous and continuous scrutiny on both phases one and two of Operation Vulindlela, including its success and shortcomings.

In collaboration with other parliamentary committees, we will assist in ensuring that accountability through a well-coordinated legislative oversight process for the delivery of programme outcomes. The programme must continue to advance the country's development through economic growth, job creation and poverty reduction.

Hon Deputy Speaker, strengthening preventative measures through compulsory lifestyle audits in the public administration remains one of the most critical tools for detecting officials living beyond their means. Consequence management for wrongdoing among public servants must be enforced.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 75

We welcome measures by the President to assess the performance of Ministers and call on the President to ensure the highest level of performance attained, and Ministers who do not perform should be held accountable.

We call on the President to ensure that all Ministers sign performance agreements with their director generals and assessments are done in a robust manner with consequence management for non-performance. Non-compliance with this should not be acceptable at the highest level of government.

Furthermore, President, the delegation of responsibilities to Deputy Ministers is a critical matter which must be clear and publicly pronounced, just as the President assigned tasks to the Deputy President. Where clear functions are not assigned, this ought to be concluded.

The empowerment especially of the Special Investigating Unit, SIU, is crucial in fighting against crime and corruption in the public sector. The SIU should be granted greater capacity, powers and responsibilities to conduct lifestyle audits across all three spheres of government without having to rely on proclamation and memorandum of understanding. This should send

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 76

a strong message to all public servants regarding government's commitment to combating corruption.

As we draw closer to the mid-term of the seventh administration, the Presidency has to begin to process ... [Interjections.] ... thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, the ANC supports Budget Vote 1, the Presidency.

Mr R A P TROLLIP: Hon Deputy Speaker, the Presidency describes itself as the centre of government, responsible for coordination, implementation of monitoring and oversight, but coordination is not an outcome in itself.

South Africans judge government on job creation, water in their taps, safety in their neighbourhoods, functioning municipalities, and a growing economy. You say these things are improving, public sentiment and the numbers speak of something different.

The report expresses concern about the manifestation of Sona promises and tracking of progress. I'll be generous, hon President, and I won't question your flights of fantasy this year. But where's the smart city? Where's the bullet train?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 77

And where is Tintswalo's job? Your promises have been exposed as venal and empty.

At last, Parliament has established an oversight committee of the Presidency. Now we can have a proper debate. The report notes weak oversight of the Presidency, creates risks such as fragmented priorities, inconsistency policy signals, and diluted accountability. For example, the lifestyle audits you promised yet have not materialised.

The Presidency tells us the system is being developed. The emperor has no clothes. Why did the ANC oppose this committee for so long? Even former Directors General, DGs, who admitted opposing its establishment now recognise its importance.

Mr President, you ran out a long list of people to thank for their support in the Presidency. Deputy President, multiple Ministers and Deputy Ministers whose responsibility is to monitor and oversight performance of government. They've clearly failed their responsibility.

Your vote is responsible for the performance of our Chapter 9 institutions created to protect our constitutional democracy. Let's evaluate some of them. The SA Human Rights Council is

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 78

facing 24,000 signatures calling for their dissolution. The Public Protector is involved with more public controversy than protection, including your own controversy. The Independent Electoral Commission, IEC's, independence and dependability are called more and more into question every election. The Auditor-General faces and continues an uphill struggle to enforce accountability. All of these institutions are faced with declining trust levels.

The Chapter 10 institutions deal with public administration and the principles of good governance, yet report acknowledges inconsistent performance, weak recruitment practices, and skills shortages. Administrators guilty of gross misconduct, gross dishonesty, move seamlessly from one institution to the other.

You yourself, hon President, went to Nelson Mandela Bay and praised the Mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay, yet in this Parliament in the same week she was castigated for maladministration and poor management.

The Presidency is responsible for driving the implementation of the Management Development Programme, MDP, and the Medium-Term Development Plan, MTDP, that should focus on jobs

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 79

and growth creation, poverty reduction, and capable developmental state. Yet the illicit economy and illegal immigration are allowed to negatively impact employment, revenue collection, investor confidence and economic growth. The question is why?

You, Mr President, are responsible for coordinating strategic infrastructure through the Presidential Coordinating Commission. We still face load reduction. Our taps are running dry, not because there's no water, but there's no maintenance of our infrastructure and municipal collapse, which is no better on display than in Johannesburg, where water outages prevail despite the Vaal River water system flooding.

If your Presidency is the centre of government, sir, then you must accept responsibility not only for coordinating plans but for delivering results.

South Africans cannot eat coordination or drink oversight and cannot find jobs in strategy documents. They need jobs that you so flippantly refer to amidst record unemployment in our country.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 80

You cannot talk about a growing economy and job creation when you look at the statistics that represent the lived realities of South Africans. If you do that without concern of those realities, it means you actually care less about the realities of those figures. Action SA will not be supporting this budget. Thank you. [Applause.]

Rev K R J MESHOE: Hon Deputy Speaker, hon President, hon members, today, as we debate Budget Vote 1 on the Presidency, we cannot ignore that the Phala Phala scandal, which continues to cast a dark shadow over the Presidency. We are heartened, however, by the recent Constitutional Court, ConCourt, ruling that ensured that Parliament finally does the right thing and establishes an Impeachment Committee. We hope this will help bring this matter to a close.

During the President's inauguration speech in 2018, he spoke about the hope that was dawning for South Africa – this, particularly given the years of corruption and scandals that had overshadowed the Zuma Presidency. And then after President Ramaphosa's speech, we all felt much more hopeful and positive about the future of our country. At that time, I implored the President to be a man of principle who would not 'buy face'.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 81

Sadly, the Phala Phala scandal has dragged on for about six years now and has left the public shocked and deeply disappointed. The Report of the Section 89 Independent Panel chaired by retired Chief Justice Sandile Ngcobo, clearly concluded that the President had a case to answer. We know that the President has applied for a High Court review of this report, which may unfortunately drag this matter and delay the conclusion of the Phala Phala matter.

In the meantime, I want to urge the President to answer two questions, simple ones, that members of the public are always asking us for answers:

Firstly, who brought and hid the money on the farm? Secondly, if the money was from the proceeds of the sale of animals or buffalo as we've been told, why was it necessary to hide it in the sofa where it was later discovered?

Answers to these questions will go a long way to help ease the outrage ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Can we focus on budget?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 82

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: My apologies hon Meshoe, hon members, please do not switch on your microphones just to comment. I would also perhaps just alert the hon Meshoe that you have to stay clear of Rule 90 in terms of anticipation of matters before the court and parliamentary processes.

Rev K R J MESHOE: Answers to these questions will go a long way to help ease the outrage so many people feel. The scandal raises serious questions about integrity, justice, and financial transparency.

How can citizens trust the government when our head of state looks like he is hiding something and evading accountability and justice? With the local government election looming, we do not want the Phala Phala matter to dominate the public discourse. Rather politicians and political parties should be focussed on finding solutions for the many problems facing our communities and dysfunctional municipalities, where we need stronger accountability and better service delivery.

May I advise you, the President, to learn from the wisdom of King Solomon who once said that:

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 83

A good name is to be desired above riches. To be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Citizens deserve a President that leads by integrity, exemplarily conduct, not by controversy. I thank you, Deputy Speaker.

Tshivenda:

VHO MINISTA KHA OFISI YA MUPHURESIDENNDE: Tshanda tsha Mudzulatshidulo wa Ndu ya Buthano la Lushaka, murangaphanda wa shango Vho-Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa, Mudzulatshidulo wa khomiti ya kha Ofisi ya Muphuresidennde, vhashumisani vhang, dzi Ministara, Tshimebi Tshihulwane kha dzangano lihulwanesa, mirado ya Ndu ya Buthano la Lushaka, vhaeni vha thonifheaho ...

English:

Deputy Speaker, the Budget Vote are not simply statement of expenditure, they are policy statements and key instrument for transparency, accountability and parliamentary oversight.

I rise to present the details of Budget Vote 1 of the Presidency. For the financial year 2026-27, the Presidency allocation is R816,8 million within the Medium-Term

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 84

Expenditure Framework, MTEF, budget of R2,3 billion. The annual performance plan, APP, also reflects a staff count of 534 in 2026-27 increasing to 594 by 2028-29 as institutional capacity and capability is strengthened. This represents an increase 7,1% from the previous financial year. This increase ensures that we have the necessary capacity to drive the ambitious reforms agenda, specifically capacitating our policy and research services as well as the project management office. This allocation will be used to support the work of the Presidency across three core programmes, administration, executive support, and policy and research services.

The strategic plan, hon Paulsen, is 2026 to 2030 because it is a medium-term plan and the APP is one year because it is an annual performance plan.

Hon members, the progress that South Africa is making albeit the challenges still confronting us, is a result of deliberate and coordinated efforts and the task of the Presidency is to ensure that government priorities do not remain just intentions. They must become funded outputs, tracked commitments, resolved blockages, and measurable progress.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 85

The President has said the Presidency does not build every road, operate every clinic, repair every water system, as those responsibilities lie with line departments, provinces, municipalities, and public entities. However, the Presidency carries the responsibility to ensure that government functions and South Africa work.

A working South Africa requires a capable state. Too often government has been criticised for producing sound plans which are hamstrung by weaker implementation. It is for this reason that the Presidency is focused on ensuring disciplined execution as the internal mechanism through which Cabinet priorities are turned into coordinated action across government departments and spheres of government.

The Presidency will focus on tracking Cabinet decisions to closure, maintaining decentralised records of implementation, ensuring that departments provide to Cabinet credible evidence of implementation. To achieve this, the Presidency will strengthen Cabinet and committee processes, the cluster system, the Forum of SA Directors-General, and the decision-tracking mechanisms that ensure that Cabinet decisions are implemented.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 86

This is part of our efforts to integrate Cabinet decision-making, intergovernmental coordination, and monitoring systems to reduce the gap between commitment and delivery across government.

Hon Deputy Speaker, South Africa is dealing with complex and interconnected challenges of unemployment, water security, infrastructure backlogs, local government instability, organised crime, gender-based violence and femicide, public sector capacity constraints, and the need to sustain economic reform momentum. These challenges cannot be resolved by one department acting alone. They require coordinated state action, clear ownership, reliable reporting, and structured escalation.

As highlighted by the President, Operation Vulindlela remains a key platform for reform coordination. Its purpose remains that of ensuring that reforms are implemented, tracked, and translated into economic impact.

The Presidency will therefore continue to support the President and Cabinet in driving structural reforms. This includes monitoring reform milestones, identifying risks,

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 87

ensuring that departments report on progress, and escalating blockages that delay implementation.

Many of the most urgent service delivery pressures are experienced at local government. Water interruptions, poor road maintenance, electricity distribution failures, waste management challenges, and weak municipal financial controls affect the daily lives of our people.

The President, during Sona 2026, committed to accelerate fixing local government, with priority given to metro municipalities, whilst also ensuring capacity building and improving service delivery across all municipalities. Since 2024, we have provided feedback on the progress being made in eThekweni and supported by the Presidential Working Group on eThekweni.

Although the City of Johannesburg still faces major constraints, which the DA and Mr. Mashaba of now ActionSA must take part responsibility for, we are starting to see some green shoots. We are witnessing concrete progress in the City of Johannesburg's efforts to reclaim the Johannesburg Central Business District through a coordinated high impact service delivery programme that was launched in February 2025, and

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 88

they said to Mr. President, we are doing it for the G20, but the programme is still running. This programme includes inner city bylaw enforcement, Johannesburg metropolitan Police Department, JMPD, visibility as a deterrent to criminal activities, environmental health initiatives, development planning compliance, City Power and Johannesburg Road Agency, JRA, service deliveries, amongst others.

As a result, the city has restored law and order along Lilian Ngoyi, Plain, De Villiers, Nuget and Small Street and their adjoining corridors.

On the financial control side, the City of Johannesburg is working closely with the National Treasury on the metro trading reforms and financial recovery and revenue enhancement work which includes revenue performance monitoring, improving billing accuracy and data recovery as guided by the city's comprehensive financial turnaround framework.

We are confident that the work of the Presidential Working Group on Johannesburg in support of the City of Johannesburg's efforts will gain momentum.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 89

The work of the Presidential Working Groups in the metros are part of the broader local government reform that is being pursued with agency. Municipal capability, financial discipline, governance and consequence management are being strengthened. We appreciate that communities cannot be asked to wait while national debts failure gets corrected.

The role of the Presidency is to ensure that challenges at municipalities are not treated as isolated municipal problems, but as national priorities requiring coordinated action and accountable follow-through. The strengthened intergovernmental coordination is part of the implementation of the District Development Model.

The focus on decontaminating the criminal justice system has been highlighted in the national intelligence estimate and this can be read in the 2021, 2024 national Intelligence Estimate, NIE, as published in 2025.

The work to decontaminate the criminal justice system of criminal elements is important to the Presidency as the ultimate custodian of national security and the coordinator of the work of the National Security Council and the work of the Mandlanga Commission is helping to fast-track the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 90

identification and confirmation of criminal elements within the SAPS and the criminal justice system and the criminal networks that have sought to capture the criminal justice system.

During the State Security Agency, SSA, Budget Vote, I indicated that SSA is making progress in implementing the Sona directive of the President to vet senior management of the SA Police Service, including lifestyle audit. Phase one, which entails the vetting of 32 SAPS senior management members who are lieutenant generals and major generals, is in an advanced stage. The SSA is further reviewing its vetting regulations.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, can you please take your seat? Hon Lonzi, what is your point of order?

Mr S LONZI: No, Deputy speaker, I think the President needs a comfort break because he keeps looking down and closing his eyes, so we are very concerned.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Lonzi, I am quite sure the President will rest whenever he feels like it. Hon Minister, please proceed.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 91

The MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY: The SSA is reviewing its vetting regulations to ensure full compliance with the provisions of the National Strategic Intelligence Act that directs that vetting function includes in-depth lifestyle audit and reporting of criminal activities of law enforcement contexts, ODTs, to law enforcement. We cannot allow also, ladies and gentlemen, the problem of illegal immigration to threaten national security and social cohesion. As the President has indicated that government has been implementing measures to deal with illegal immigration in South Africa and protect the economic rights and interests of South Africans.

In addition to the increased workplace labour inspections, the President has mentioned additional measures include, one, government in 2023 established the Border Management Authority to address the weaknesses in border management and make sure that our borders are not porous. Two, the Department of Home Affairs has been increasing the number of deportations of undocumented foreign nationals year on year since 2022 despite the capacity constraints. Three, the Cabinet approved the revised White Paper on Citizenship, Immigration and Refugee Protection in March 2026.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 92

At the relevant post-Cabinet briefing, we clarified that the White Paper improves the management of migrant reception arrangements and also provides for Section 22 of the Constitution in terms of economic rights of South Africans. Four, the Department of Employment and Labour has finalised the National Labour Migration Policy that introduces maximum quotas for documented foreign nationals and provides for the prosecution of employers hiring undocumented foreign nationals.

In addition, Cabinet has approved the submission to Parliament of the Employment Services Amendment Bill which empowers the Minister of Employment and Labour to set quotas in respect of employment of foreign nationals in any economic sector and occupational category. Five, currently 26 364 criminal offenders who are foreign nationals are held in correctional services facilities, debunking the myth that law enforcement is not able to arrest foreign nationals when they commit crimes in South Africa.

In addition, the Department of Small Business Development is continuing to ensure the implementation of the National Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Informal Business Licensing Framework which restricts business licensing to South Africans

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 93

and individuals with valid migration status. Therefore, there is no need for peacetime heroes in addressing illegal immigration.

Law enforcement must be left to law enforcement authority and the authorities will deal decisively with those who act against the laws of our country and the Constitution of our Republic.

The Presidency's role must be clearly understood. The Presidency leads, coordinates, oversees, advises, communicates and intervenes when necessary. This enables delivery across government. The Presidency will continue to track implementation of Sona and Medium-term Development Plan, MTDP, commitments, assess progress across clusters and ensure that delivery failures requiring executive intervention are escalated. This work is not administrative; it is political and constitutional accountability in practice.

Citizens must be able to see what government committed to, what has been done, what is delayed and what corrective action is being tabled.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 94

The third apex priority of government is to build capable, ethical and developmental states. The Presidency will continue to support the professionalisation of the public service, performance management reform, ethical governance and consequence management.

Corruption and weak governance undermine delivery. They drain resources, damage public trust and weaken the legitimacy of the state. The Presidency will continue to monitor and report to Parliament on the implementation of the national anti-corruption strategy, the state capture commission response actions, the Special Investigating Unit, SIU, reports and referral processes.

Our quest is to move from culture of delayed consequences to a culture of visible accountability. The public must know what government that government takes seriously, the responsibility to protect public resources and to act against wrongdoing. Delivery in the modern state requires reliable information systems.

A centre of government cannot coordinate effectively if it depends on fragmented reporting, manual processes, weak records and delayed information. The Presidency will therefore

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 95

prioritise digital transformation, decision-taking system, information integrity, cyber security and modernise internal systems. Internal modernisation is not an administrative luxury; it is a delivery requirement.

When systems function, coordination improves. When reporting is accurate, escalation is credible. When records are reliable, accountability is strengthened.

South Africa's international engagement must reinforce domestic development. The Presidency will support the President and the Deputy President in advancing South Africa's national interest on the international stage, including through Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, Brics, Southern African Development Community, SADC, the African Union and other multilateral platforms. The annual performance plan, APP, highlights the need for stronger alignment between foreign policy position and domestic reform objectives, including through a consolidated international relations position framework.

This means that international agreements, partnerships and engagements must be tracked for outcomes. They must support investment, trade development, infrastructure skills and South

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 96

Africa's strategic interests. Our international work must not stand apart from our domestic priorities; it must help advance them.

Public confidence depends not only on what government does, but also on how honestly and clearly government communicates. The Presidency continues to oversee communication strategy implementation through the government communication and information system and support coherent national messaging, stakeholder engagement, transparency and public access to information. The government must speak clearly to citizens, but it must also listen to its citizens. The work of communication is therefore not propaganda; it is democratic accountability.

The year 2026-27 is the year of acceleration. Acceleration requires focus. We do this in a year of profound national significance. Our country marks 70 years since the historic 1956 Women's march to the Union Buildings. We mark 60 years since the District Six forced removals.

We mark 50 years since the 1976 youth uprising. We also mark 30 years since the adoption of our democratic Constitution. These milestones remind us that freedom was never achieved

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 97

through symbolism alone. It was achieved through courage, organisation, sacrifice and action. Therefore, our commemoration of these moments cannot be ceremonial only. It must be reflected in the lived experiences of South Africans.

To honour the women of 1956, we must strengthen the fight against gender-based violence and face and advance women empowerment unashamedly and unrelentingly. To honour the communities displaced through forced removals, we must improve access to services, infrastructure and local development. We must also make sure that the land is returned back to its rightful owners.

To honour the youth of 1976, we must intensify our work on employment skills, public employment pathways and economic opportunities. And to honour 30 years of the Constitution, we must ensure that the constitutional rights are experienced, not only in law, but in daily life.

It is President Ramaphosa who just did not admit to challenges in water service delivery but instituted corrective actions. He directed the restatement of the Drop reports to improve accountability and transparency to deal with leaks, pollution of drinking water and the implementation of our action plans.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 98

It is President Ramaphosa who acknowledged that the criminal justice system must be strengthened and to the chilies dream of the DA, he appointed the Madlanga Commission which is accelerating the fight to decontaminate the criminal justice system. Therefore, Vote 1 of the Presidency is a Vote that prioritises and ensures the delivery of a South Africa that works.

Tshivenda:

Ndo livhuwa, Mudzulatshidulo. [U fhululedza.]

Mr N L S KWANKWA: Hon Deputy Speaker, the UDM supports Budget Vote 1. South Africa faces enormous socioeconomic challenges, stubborn unemployment, deep poverty, rising inequality and sluggish economic growth. Yet despite these challenges, our economy remains one of the most developed and diversified on the continent.

This reality makes South Africa a magnet for migrants seeking economic opportunities, including those who enter or remain in our country illegally. President, we want to make it categorically clear that on the issue of illegal immigration, we stand with South Africans who are calling for the lawful enforcement of our immigration laws. President, no country in

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 99

the world is expected to simply look the other way when faced with illegal and undocumented migrations. No country is told that enforcing its laws is somewhat immoral. Yet in South Africa, whenever the issue is raised, we are immediately subjected to lectures, labels and moral grandstanding. South Africans are told that they must not complain. They must not ask questions. They must not expect their laws to be enforced. They must simply absorb the consequences and remain silent.

What is even more remarkable, President, is the persistent attempt to reduce this complex issue to race. We are constantly told by those who are intellectually lazy that white undocumented foreigners are not targeted. Well, if they were competing for jobs in Gugulethu, Mdantsane, Khayelitsha, KwaMashu and Soweto, if they were concentrated in township economies, petrol stations, restaurants and informal businesses, if they were directly competing for some opportunities and limited resources that millions of poor South Africans rely on, they too will be part of this debate.

The reality is that the issue is not primarily about race. It's about economics, opportunity, unemployment and competition for scarce resources. Pretending otherwise may be politically convenient for some, but it does nothing to

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 100

address the legitimate concerns of South Africans who live with these realities on a daily basis. But apparently, pointing out this obvious fact has somehow become controversial.

President, we are also Pan-Africanists, but we are not naive. We reject this term or version of Pan-Africanism that appears only when South Africa is expected to make sacrifices. We are told that South Africans must carry the burden of poor leadership and governance failures elsewhere on the continent. We are told that South Africans must never complain. We are told that South Africans must never ask difficult questions. I, however, want to ask a number of questions which are important.

Where is this Pan-Africanism when African leaders are bought by the West and Morocco to vote against African interests in international forums such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union, IPU? Where is this Pan-Africanism when South Africa came under fire under sustained verbal attacks from the United States of America, USA, during your G20 Presidency? Lastly, and perhaps more importantly, where was Pan-Africanism when 14 South African soldiers paid with their lives in pursuit of peace and stability on the continent? Fourteen lives lost, families

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 101

shattered and coffins draped in the South African flag. What happened afterwards?

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, DRC, and the USA signed agreements giving American companies priority access to the DRC's mineral wealth. America secured the deal; we buried our soldiers. Too often, solidarity is demanded from South Africa but barely reciprocated. President, solidarity without reciprocity is exploitation. Partnership without mutual benefit is dependency. The Pan-Africanism without accountability is a scam and merely a slogan, and we reject it with the contempt it deserves. We, therefore, support the enforcement of South Africa's immigration laws and at the same time, we reject violence, intimidation and attacks against foreign nationals. The rule of law must prevail.

Setswana:

Ke a leboga!

Mr K J MILEHAM: Deputy Speaker, it's often said that insanity is doing the same thing repeatedly and expecting a different result. In South Africa, we call that energy policy. For 17 years, the ANC has promised to fix electricity. Seventeen years, Mr President, of war rooms, 17 years of emergency

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 102

plans, 17 years of presidential announcements and still, the same broken machine remains: monopoly thinking, political delay, municipal collapse, Eskom failure and consumers paying more for less. This is Budget Vote 1. This is The Presidency. Responsibility cannot be outsourced.

President Ramaphosa promised reform. Minister Ramokgopa promised pace. Operation Vulindlela promised delivery. What we got was reform by press release, PowerPoint reform, not power sector reform. Yes, load shedding has eased, but fewer blackouts do not mean a repaired electricity system. A patient out of the Intensive Care Unit, ICU, is not cured. Electricity remains too expensive, too fragile, too centralised and too vulnerable to politics.

Eskom's standard tariffs rose by 8,76% for direct consumers in this financial year and municipal tariffs by 9,01%. That follows a 12,7% increase last year. That means less electricity for the same prepaid voucher, a pensioner choosing between a heater and groceries or a spaza shop owner choosing between wages, rent and the lights. Now compare that to Negotiated Pricing Agreements, NPA.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 103

In April, Eskom announced a proposed 62 cents per kilowatt-hour tariff for Samancor Chrome and Glencore-Merafe Chrome Venture smelters. Make no mistake, we understand industrial distress. We understand jobs. But why must families absorb double-digit pain while special deals are negotiated behind commercial confidentiality? The mother buying R50 of prepaid electricity gets no NPA. The pensioner in a cold flat gets no reduced tariff. The township's spaza shop owner gets no special dispensation. They get the bill. That is punishment pricing for consumers and sweetheart pricing for the connected.

In March 2026, Eskom said municipal arrears had passed R110 billion. In May, Johannesburg and City Power owed R5,2 billion in arrears, excluding R1,5 billion in their current account. It is a governance sinkhole, and the causes are not mysterious. The causes are non-payment, illegal connections, meter tampering, ghost vending, cable theft, weak enforcement and political protection for theft dressed up as compassion. President Ramaphosa, you don't need another plan. You need the political will to confront the people who are profiting from failure.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 104

Ring-fence electricity revenue, install smart prepaid meters, prosecute those ghost vending syndicates, cut off the illegal connections, protect paying residents and stop rewarding municipalities that collect from citizens and fail to pay Eskom. Now, Distribution Agency Agreements may help in some places, but they're not a national solution. They're a band-aid on bullet holes. Then, we come to Eskom governance.

Eskom has confirmed an investigation into diesel procurement and storage contracts, but its interim report found failures in procurement and contract management. The AmaBhungane Centre for Investigative Journalism reported that the matter involves R21 billion for a diesel contract for Ankerlig, including alleged abnormal prepayments.

This is why the DA has called for a joint meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Electricity and Energy, and the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Scopa. It cannot vanish into Eskom's filing cabinets. Bring the board, bring National Treasury, bring the documents. Let's follow the money. Mr President, we've seen this game before: Guptas, Tegeta, Optimum. The same warning lights, but much bigger numbers this time.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 105

Diesel is meant to keep the lights on, but under the ANC's governance, even emergency fuel needs emergency investigation. That is why reform cannot crawl. The Electricity Regulation Act commenced on 1 January 2025, but laws do not produce power. We can't measure reform by announcements from the Union Buildings. We need to measure it by megawatts connected, kilometres of transmission lines built, debt reduced and thieves prosecuted. The market operator must work. The National Transmission Company of SA must be independent. Unbundling must be completed, not just performed.

The DA argues for a truly independent electricity market operator - referee, not player; market, not monopoly; competition, not cadre deployment. Above all, build the grid. The Transmission Development Plan requires 14,500 kilometres of new lines and 210 transformers by 2034. Without that, reform dies on the road. Wind in the Cape can't reach Gauteng, solar projects back up, investors walk away and communities stay poor because the state cannot provide a plug point.

Mr President, this is the test; not another committee, not another promise, not another fossil fuel dinosaur dragging its tail through the Cabinet room. Execution. Liberalise the market, build the grid, clean up municipal revenue, end the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 106

secret deals, publish the diesel report and prosecute corruption. Protect poor households and let capable municipalities procure power. Let private capital build. Let South Africans procure electricity from real deliverers.

South Africa is not short of plans. It's short of consequences. It needs affordable reliable and competitive power. It needs a Presidency that governs, not one that announces, a Minister who executes, not one who explains delay, municipalities that pay, thieves who go to jail and citizens treated as the point of the electricity system, not as a mere afterthought. Thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Madam Deputy Speaker, the Commander in Chief of the armed forces of the Republic of South Africa, hon President Cyril Ramaphosa hon Deputy President, allow me to stand on the protocols that are already established, fellow South Africans.

I rise today to speak in support of Budget Vote 1 of the Presidency with conviction, with purpose, and with a deep sense of responsibility to the millions of South Africans whose lives are shaped by every rand allocated and every decision made from the Union Buildings.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 107

Today, we gather not just as representatives of our respective constituencies, but as stewards of a vision that has guided our nation for three decades.

In this debate we must reaffirm our commitment to vision, which aims at improving the quality of life for all citizens and freeing the potential of everyone.

This is not simply a financial debate. This is a debate about whether the government is delivering on the promise made to our people not just in words, but in deeds. It is a debate about whether we are honouring the sacred compact that binds the state to its citizens.

Hon members, this year marks 30 years of our Constitution – that is not merely a document, but a living expression of our collective hope and dreams, rooted in transformative aspirations of the Freedom Charter. Arguably, it is one of the most progressive and transformative founding documents in the world.

Our Constitution was born out of the vision of the Freedom Charter which solemnly declares that houses, security, and

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 108

comfort shall be the birthright of every South African,
regardless of race, gender, or geography.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Deputy Minister, please take your
seat. Hon Reddy, please take your seat.

Mr V G REDDY: Deputy Speaker, will the Deputy Minister be
prepared to take a question? Can I ask how many houses have
been built?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Reddy...

Mr V G REDDY: She is giving us lots of stories. How many
houses have been built?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ... hon Reddy, I am now ruling you out of
order, you know full well. You ask whether the member is
willing to take a question. You do not give your question.
Deputy Minister, are you prepared to take a question.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: No, no.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: She is not prepared.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 109

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Reddy, I am waiting for you ... [Inaudible.] The Constitution is our most powerful tool for change. It is an instrument designed to ensure that every person in our nation has access to adequate houses, security, and comfort.

Budget Vote 1, the Presidency's commitment to leading a state that lives by its constitutional obligations, and we support it unreservedly.

A people cannot build their future without water, without shelter, and without access to opportunity. The Presidency has committed to advancing an integrated and sustainable human settlements policy, one that ensures universal access to basic services and economic inclusion. We stand firmly in support of this direction.

Water is life, and for too many communities, that life remains uncertain. We therefore welcome the urgency reflected in this budget, together with the Presidency's direct interventions and hands-on approach to strengthen ailing municipalities, restore failing infrastructure, and secure reliable access to water for all.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 110

Hon members, investing in early child development, is not optional spending, it is economic policy. As President Ramaphosa said in the 2026 State of the nation address, that:

Our focus now is on establishing a firm foundation for learning in the early years of a child's life, for it is one of the most powerful levers. We have to unlock the potential of our nation.

Quality early childhood programmes increase school completion, employability, and long-term productivity. Similarly, the National Health Insurance, NHI, despite ongoing contestation, functions are normative and the foundation of a state that affirms health equity for its most disadvantaged citizens. Although debated, anchors the principle that every citizen's health, especially the poorest, carries equal weight in a just health system.

All of this requires infrastructure, roads, sanitation, energy connectivity to name but a few. We support this budget vote's commitment to building that foundation.

Freedom finds its fullest expression in dignity. We therefore continue to invest in dignified housing, the upgrading of

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 111

informal settlements, and support for military veterans who helped secure our democracy. Every home delivered, every title deed issued, and every settlement upgraded brings us closer to the constitutional promise of a South Africa that belongs to all who live in it. Yet the journey is not complete, and that the pace of delivery continues to accelerate. More needs to be done.

Hon members, the storms of KwaZulu-Natal, the floods that displaced thousands in the Eastern Cape and Limpopo, the wildfires in the Western Cape, these are not distant threats. They are present realities. Climate change does not discriminate, but it hits hardest those who have the least resources to recover.

Through the Emergency Housing programme, the government continues to provide temporary accommodation, relocation support, and the restoration of damaged structures, going beyond emergency response to address the root of vulnerability. But our ambition must be greater still. Our responsibility is to build climate-resilient human settlements capable of withstanding future disasters and protecting the dignity of our people.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 112

Hon President, this is precisely, where Innovative Building Technologies, become not just relevant, but essential. The Department of Human Settlements is embracing faster, safer, and more sustainable methods of construction. The recent IBT Presidential Summit confirmed a watershed moment, these technologies are no longer experimental alternatives. They are a necessary and permanent component of modern housing delivery.

Our government is now institutionalising IBTs, within the mainstream human settlements programme to accelerate delivery, strengthen disaster response capability, support localisation, and critically to create economic opportunities for women, youth, and emerging enterprises. This is transformation and infrastructure development working as one.

The proof of this concept is not theoretical. It is documented. In Limpopo, two IBT houses withstood severe disaster conditions that destroyed the surrounding structures standing firm while others fell, providing safety and protection to the families sheltered within them. That is not a pilot project. That is proof of purpose. And this House should take note.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 113

Hon President, we are encouraged by the tangible progress being made in KwaZulu-Natal under the stewardship of Member of the Executive Council, MEC, Sboniso Duma. Following the commitment by all three spheres of government to provide permanent solutions for victims of the devastating 2022 floods, progress is now being realised not in promises, but in keys handed over to qualifying beneficiaries. A few weeks ago, we witnessed the relocation of 113 households from Transitional Emergency Accommodation into permanent homes in Cornubia.

These are families who endured years of hardship and uncertainty following the 2022 floods. Today, they have a place to call home. Plans are further underway, to complete an additional 450 houses in Cornubia by March 2027. We applaud this project and urge that momentum be maintained.

To further reduce over-reliance on the private sector in disaster response, the department through the Housing Development Agency, has acquired the Transnet - owned Montclair Lodge facility.

Its refurbishment and operationalisation will provide dignified emergency accommodation while strengthening the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 114

province's preparedness in the face of increasingly unpredictable weather patterns. This is the kind of proactive, state-led innovation this moment demands.

As we commend KwaZulu-Natal's response, we say clearly and without hesitation to the Western Cape provincial government: follow suit. Recent flood victims in the Western Cape deserve the same urgency, the same commitment, and the same permanent shelter. The people of the Western Cape are not second-class citizens and must not be treated as such.

Land reform remains equally important. It needs ongoing political commitment and leadership. Recent interventions through the upgrading of Land Tenure programme, Land Distribution and Restoration programme have extended ownership, security and opportunity to thousands of South Africans.

Section 25 of the Constitution is a mandatory directive for the State to redress past dispossession and inequality, not just an ideal. The executive commitment is essential for meaningful land reform in South Africa. Yet we must recognise that the struggle for land, ownership, and economic justice is inseparable from the struggle for women's emancipation.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 115

Thomas Sankara articulated this truth powerfully when he said:

The revolution and women's liberation go together. We do not talk of women's emancipation as an act of charity or out of surge of human compassion. It is a necessity for the revolution to triumph. Women hold up the other half of the sky.

Hon members, few days ago, the President launched three land reform programs directly in communities awaiting justice.

The Gaesegwe Communal Property Association which has 4096 of whom 1257 are women headed households received, 12 title deeds covering, 4187 hectares, with over R20 million in post settlement support, including 300 cattle and farming machinery.

The Barolong Boo Rapulana Communal Property Association received three title deeds covering 411 hectares as part of the process that has restored 26066 hectares at a total settlement walled of R312 million with R40 Million development programme underway.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 116

Every title deed handed to a woman headed household, every parcel of land restored and transferred into the hands of a mother raising children advances not only social justice, but a broader transformation of society.

We support Budget Vote 1 - because we believe in a South Africa where every child has clean water, every family has a roof with a title deed attached, every city dismantles the geography of exclusion, and every citizen from the Cape Flats to the hillsides of Limpopo can say: This government works for me. Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. [Applause.]

BUSINESS SUSPENDED AT 16:58 AND RESUMED AT 17:16.

Mr S D SELAMOLELA: Hon Speaker, the hon House Chair, His Excellency the President of the Republic of South Africa, Matamela President Ramaphosa. I must also salute the Chief Whip of the majority party because unlike others who came here and shouted Afrocentrism, I'm sure to still see you next week. I'm not certain about the others, so I must greet you. I greet my colleagues, Members of Parliament and the people of South Africa.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 117

Hon House Chair, maybe my starting point must be me saying, we, as the African National Congress, support this Budget Vote 1. It is imperative to view Budget Vote 1, hon members, in the context of the President acting as the co-ordinating centre for integrated social and economic planning and development at the macro and microeconomic levels, rather than just a centre which replaces the role and functions of specific Ministries and departments.

The actual reality is that the Presidency works with other Ministries and departments to ensure that programmes are implemented with tangible results, which we are seeing. We are engaging in a mega-scale infrastructure development and macroeconomic development in a challenging global context, which is characterised by the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, coupled with trade wars which directly impacted the South African economy.

The tariff force and the barriers to trade imposed by major markets have created distress for many primary industries in our country. The conflict in the Middle East has directly impacted the country's fuel prices. Hon President, we welcome the intervention of your government to stabilise the impact of fuel increases for consumers and industry, preserving jobs and

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 118

the manufacturing sector of the economy. The negative global environment, just as the COVID-19 pandemic was, demonstrates to us the need for local economic self-sufficiency with reduced reliance on import and increased exports.

Our economy, notwithstanding the many challenges locally and globally, to which some have already mentioned, has proven to be robust and with those circumstances recorded a modest growth. The modest economic growth must be coupled with the fact that over the last few years, South Africa has developed a trade surplus in dollar terms. The country's trade surplus as of March 2026 sits at R31,9 billion to the value of US\$1,9 billion. This has largely been based on minerals such as gold, platinum, coal as well as agriculture. The demand for locally assembled motor vehicles was also high and positively contributed to our progressive trade surplus, to which we commend you and your government, Mr President.

The agricultural sector in our country has positively contributed to the trade surplus of the country. South Africa's agricultural exports have surged over the last three years, culminating in a record of US\$15,1 billion in 2025. From 2023 to 2025, the trade surplus was over R600 million over the period of two years. The trade with Africa, due to

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 119

the African Continental Free Trade Area, has resulted in a certain trading pattern with 30% of South Africa's global export trade and is currently valued at R400 billion or US\$1,9 billion. This will significantly grow as the true industrialisation of our country will also be dependent on the growth of an African economy and intercontinental trade, which we know, Mr President, you understand very well. That is why we do not take sentiments that are pessimistic seriously and speak about Afrocentrism, which is not in context.

Hon members, the reality is that we are expecting more through this Budget Vote 1: The Presidency, hence we support it and believe in it. The modest economic growth and trade surplus are the realistic basis upon which social economic growth predicted at 3% is expected. The Medium-Term Development Plan requires an integrated approach with a clear finance strategy. Moreover, the budget investment of R1,3 trillion for infrastructure investment requires the co-ordination of the President to ensure that integrated planning and development occur.

Furthermore, hon members, measures must be taken to ensure that funding of financial architecture by Professor Swilling from the National Planning Commission are expedited. Your

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 120

Excellency. The South African financial sector's allocation requires a recalibration, and we believe you are on track in doing that. South African capital markets can support a 3% economic growth trajectory. We must revisit foreign exposure of assets and increase non-listed asset allocation by the Government Employees Pension Fund, GEPPF and other financial institutions. The less than 5% allocation at this point will be counterproductive to grow the real economy. It's a fact that the majority of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, JSE, financial sector dominated with a minimal job creation impact.

Your Excellency, an increase in non-listed assets to about 10% in additional allocation of close to R150 billion will accelerate funding for small, medium and micro enterprises, SMME, and advance our non-negotiable transformation agenda. This is within the control of the state. The investment of workers should and will help transform our economy.

The transformation of the economy, with the reduction of foreign exposure of assets, we can crowd in over a trillion in the medium-term without adversely impacting asset growth. We can increase exploration, small and medium-sized enterprises, SME, financing, infrastructure investment and our gross fixed capital formation. We must take measures to significantly

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 121

capitalise the Industrial Development Corporation, IDC, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, DBSA, the National Empowerment Fund, NEF, and Skills Initiative for Africa, Sifa, to spread the entrepreneurial energy of our country and grow our economy.

The majority of blacks and Africans, in particular, continue to be excluded in the economy, and their chances of rapid economic growth are thwarted. The transformation of the economy is, in essence, to ensure inclusive growth and job creation. However, financing of black business remains challenged, with barriers to entry for black business due to lack of collateral or assets. It is against this background, hon President, that we believe capitalising in institutions like the IDC, NEF, Sifa and DBSA will go a long way.

Mr President, the African National Congress has placed jobs as priority number one of your government. With the current unemployment rates, our focus, which we know is your focus, must be jobs, jobs and nothing else but jobs. The development of a comprehensive job plan through beneficiation, industrial and agricultural development, and the growth of the microeconomic sector needs to occur to deal with the structural problem of unemployment.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 122

In order to grow the economy, we must continue to attract both foreign and domestic investments. In this regard, Mr President, we commend you and your government, and we welcomed the sixth South Africa Investment Conference that occurred on 31 March 2026 at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg, in which, Mr President, we raised a record high of R890,8 billion pledges in investment. This is a milestone that deserves a round of applause, hon members. [Applause.]

The pledges are part of a new five-year investment drive targeting R2 trillion by 2030. Our emphasis on support for Budget Vote 1 is not on the success achieved thus far, but also to ensure that the target of R2 trillion investment is achieved by 2030. We are confident that it will be achieved.

The President has led the progressive Operation Vulindlela and this has made strides to reduce red tape and ease the process of doing business in our country. We must welcome and salute these strides of Operation Vulindlela in network industries such as electricity. You may not be aware that we do not have load shedding at this point which is as a result of some of this intervention that we are speaking about. Through the implementation of the Energy Action Plan, led by the African National Congress, load shedding has ended for more than

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 123

365 days, where we have 365 days without load shedding. No load shedding is expected for your ears in winter with increased demand, something that we deserve to applaud as a nation and as a people ... [Applause.]. The reserve capacity, which is generated by Eskom, has been made available at a preferential tariff to primary industries in distress. We must commend this progress. The increase in generation capacity now means that the economy is able to grow at 2% per annum.

The recovery of commuter rail is critical for residents to ensure that the working-class and the poor are able to access an efficient and cheap mode of transport. To this effect, we commend the progress that is recorded at the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa in as far as ensuring that all lines are back on track.

The introduction of the new visa regime is already paying dividend to the country, with an increased number of flights and tourists to the country. We salute you in this regard, Mr President. However, there is much work to be done to ensure the efficiency of freight rail and ports in the country. Progress is not noticeably slow, but on track.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 124

The economy of this country is dependent on efficient logistics for its imports and exports. Logistics costs remain high and still we must compete with other markets from the southern tip of our continent. We must reduce the cost of major inputs to the economy to make it more competitive, such as electricity, the cost of water, logistics and fuel prices.

Hon members, South Africa's steel is priced in the domestic market at the import parity price, which makes domestic steel more expensive in the domestic market than imported steel, as it's priced as if it was imported with freight costs. South Africa's steel is exported at the cheaper export parity price, which makes imported steel cheaper in the domestic market. Moreover, South Africa's steel is exported to Spain, Thailand and Portugal, which manufacture Liquefied Petroleum Gas, LPG, cylinders cheaper than we can do in our country. The high import parity of domestic steel must be reviewed through Operation Vulindlela to increase the competitiveness and efficiency of our economy.

Regulated pricing is creating structural inflation, making the country's economy uncompetitive for investment in comparison to other investment destinations. This is the margin to the formulas over rewarding in this margin without an investment.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 125

We must further propose the review of regulated pricing, which are critical economic inputs such as electricity, water, fuel and logistics to reduce structural inflation. The implementation of the National Freight Logistics Roadmap must continue to be monitored.

Hon President, the Presidential State-Owned Enterprises Council must be commended for it has played a critical role in repositioning the development of State-Owned Enterprises, SOEs. SOE reforms should enhance their role. Most SOEs are a growing concern. They need to grow the operation and balance sheet to ensure that public and private partnership can become a reality without eroding strategic ownership of the state. A capitalisation strategy for SOEs is required to place them on a growth trajectory and to create the required decent jobs.

We have no doubt, as the African National Congress, that their hands are on deck. You have put in everything, you have spared no energy to make this thing work, and South Africa will work. President, you are leading us well. We salute you. Thanks very much. We support you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon members, I want to remind you that the use of cellphones to take calls here in

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 126

the Assembly is not allowed. I had to send service officers to at least two members who were on phone calls while the debate was taking place. If you need to make a call, please go outside and do it there.

Hon members, the next speaker is the hon Mngxitama.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: House Chair, I bring you revolutionary greetings from our revolutionary movement, uMkhonto Wesizwe. I also want to send my greetings to the president of our movement, Nxamalala. [Applause.]

I stand to reject this Budget Vote. Mr Ramaphosa, you can no longer hide behind the courts instead of serving the people. You can do the simple thing by resigning. [Interjections.] You are hiding behind the law whilst being a constitutional delinquent.

However, resigning is unfortunately not your decision. We all know that you occupy that position by virtue of the R1 billion bribe from the Stellenbosch mafia. [Applause.] You are a president of Stellenbosch. The same funders that gave you R1 billion are the funders of the chairperson of the impeachment committee. This whole thing is being rigged.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 127

However, we are here. We are watching, and we won't allow the Stellenbosch mafia agenda to succeed. We see you. Mr Ramaphosa, the courts can't protect you from public scrutiny anymore. It shall not be a repeat of the concealment of the R1 billion bribe money you received from Stellenbosch, which was concealed by the judiciary.

Mr Ramaphosa, you have a long history of wrongdoing against the people of South Africa. Your call for concomitant action against the Marikana workers shall never be forgotten.

[Applause.] Those who elected you have their hands ... with your hands dripping in blood ... must also take responsibility. To remind you, Mr Ramaphosa, those workers died ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon member. Take your seat. What is the point of order, hon member?

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): Chairperson, I would like you to rule whether it is parliamentary for a member to intimate that the President received R1 billion in bribe money. Is this not casting aspersions? Thank you very much.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 128

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Yes, thank you, hon member. Hon members, I would request that when you follow the debate and a statement is made, that you immediately raise a point of order so that I can rule on it. However, in terms of this one, I will request the hon member to withdraw that statement. [Interjections.]

Mr J A MNGXITAM: Which statement?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): You said that the President received a R1 billion bribe.

An HON MEMBER: Point of order, Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): No, I'm dealing with this point of order. You will withdraw that statement, please. You're casting aspersions on the Office of the President and the President in person. [Interjections.]

Mr J A MNGXITAM: Okay, for progress sake, I will withdraw.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Thank you. Order. You may proceed, hon member.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 129

Mr J A MNGXITAM: Yes, but the workers of Marikana died because they wanted nothing but a living wage. They wanted education for their children. There were no criminals. You called the police on them and they were massacred. Death seems to be your thing, sir. What happened to the alleged CR17 money launderer lawyer, Barry Eugene ...?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon member. Will you take your seat? What's the point of order, hon member?

Mr C M DUGMORE: Chair, will you please rule on the statements that the hon member has made ... [Inaudible.]

An HON MEMBER: Which rule are you rising on?

Mr C M DUGMORE: ... in light of the fact that there has been a commission of inquiry into Marikana and there were no findings made against President Ramaphosa, as per the speech of this member. He is casting aspersions ... casting aspersions.

An HON MEMBER: Hi, Chair? Hi, Chair? Chair?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 130

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon members, hon members, I listen to a point of order and I make a ruling. Right? Don't prescribe to me. Don't prescribe to me. I am in charge of this session and I will execute it according to the rules.

Now, there's a point of order that has been raised. Hon Dugmore, I will ask the Table Staff to assist me and I will come back with a considered ruling.

There's two ... three hands. Who is in charge of taking the point of order, because three hands are up? Hon Douglas.

Mr W M DOUGLAS: I rise on Rule 84. The hon member is improperly imputing motives to another member. They are actually imputing improper motives to our member, and in reality he's clarifying the ... [Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): I said I'll come back with a considered ruling.

Mr W M DOUGLAS: So, he doesn't need to withdraw anything, Mr Chair. [Interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 131

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): I'll come back with a considered ruling. Yes, hon Reddy?

Mr V G REDDY: Hon House Chair, please rule on these frivolous points of order by the ANC, because the bribery money in the CR17 is a fact ... [Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, I have made a ruling on that matter. You will withdraw that statement now. If you don't want to withdraw the statement, as there's a ruling that I've made on it, then you will face the repercussions of repeating ...

Mr V G REDDY: Which statement? Which statement?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): ... a statement that I have ruled out of order.

Mr V G REDDY: The statement that you've ruled ... [Inaudible.]
... not the statement I have made ... [Inaudible.]

An HON MEMBER: Remove him, man!

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 132

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order. Hon member, you will withdraw that statement.

Mr V G REDDY: For the sake of progress, I will withdraw ...
[Inaudible.] ...

An HON MEMBER: Thank you very much.

Mr V G REDDY: [Inaudible.] ... frivolous points of order, please stop that ... [Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, I will rule. I will rule. Please proceed, hon Mngxitam.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: President, what happened to your alleged CR17 money launderer lawyer, Barry Eugene Faber, who allegedly died in his sleep? Faber's law firm is alleged to have received the 500 000 ... Bosasa on your behalf. The lawyer died mysteriously and was hurriedly buried.

We also have questions about the death of the Bosasa boss, Gavin Watson, a billionaire who died in a ... [Inaudible.]

IsiZulu:

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 133

Kahleni bo!

English:

The list is long, Mr Ramaphosa. We remind the nation of the mysterious death of the Deputy ... Commissioner of Police, Crime Detection ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Mngxitam, will you take your seat, please? There's somewhere that somebody has asked to be recognised. There at the back. There was a hand right at the back.

Mrs T M CHAUKE-ADONIS: Chairperson, I rise on Rule 257 that speaks to the Chief Whip of the Opposition, which is the MK Party. We know that the MK Party's Chief Whip has been arrested. I just want to find out how this will affect ...
[Inaudible.] ...

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Mr Chair, I object.

Mrs T M CHAUKE-ADONIS: ... operations of ... [Inaudible.] ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member? Hon member? [Interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 134

Mrs T M CHAUKE-ADONIS: ... [Inaudible.] ... I took note that they left that proceedings ... [Inaudible.] ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member?

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Please ask that she be removed from this House.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, please take your seat.

Mrs T M CHAUKE-ADONIS: ... [Inaudible.] ... perhaps they were not given a directive on how to behave and conduct themselves in today's ... [Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, please take your seat! [Interjections.] Order! Hon Douglas, will you just relax please?

Hon member, you asked to rise on a point of order, and you raise Rule 257 that has absolutely no relevance to the discussion that is currently taking place. Let me tell you what it deals with. It deals with the composition of the Chief Whips' Forum.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 135

Then you raise other issues that have absolutely nothing to do with that rule. Hon members, let us treat this debate with the necessary decorum and also with the seriousness that it demands from us please. It doesn't help to throw insults at one another. It doesn't enhance the quality of your input. In fact, it degenerates to something else.

However, while I am on this point, and a point of order has been raised, hon Mngxitam, I have been informed by the Table that has assisted me, that you said ... and this is in reference to the President, "Your hands are dripping in blood. You called the police on them and they were massacred." This casts serious aspersions on the President, in terms of the matter that you have raised. It's in violation of Rule 85 and you must withdraw that statement. [Interjections.] Order, hon members!

Mr J A MNGXITAM: The Marikana workers were massacred ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, you must withdraw the statement.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: I withdraw the statement.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 136

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Thank you. Please proceed.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: The list is long, Mr Ramaphosa. We remind the nation of the mysterious death of the ... Commissioner of Police for Crime Detection, Lt-Gen Sindile Mfazi, who at the time of his death, amongst others was seized with the investigation of the Phala Phala scandal.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Mngxitam, will you take your seat, please? Hon member, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr S L DITHEBE: Chairperson, there is continuing imputation on the part of the member on the podium against the person of the President, and I submit that in terms of Rules 92 and 93, you rule him out of order, because he's continuing along that path, endlessly and ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, I cannot silence the member. What I will do is that in terms of his speech I will rule on matters that he's raising. Then, at a particular point, I can take a decision in terms of the rules. So, I'm listening to what the member is saying. The duty of

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 137

the Whips is to raise a point of order and I rule on it. Hon Mngxitam, you may proceed. [Interjections.] Order, hon members.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: The MK Party supports the petition named Justice for Lt-Gen Mfazi. Please Google it and support it. Justice for Lt-Gen Mfazi.

Mr Ramaphosa, how many more must die in the massive cover-up of your wrongdoing? Death and corruption follow you, sir. The workers of Marikana died ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Mngxitam, will you take your seat, please? Hon Dugmore?

Mr C M DUGMORE: Chairperson, once again, the speaker is placing ... [Interjections.]

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

Mr C M DUGMORE: He's abusing the rules which say that you cannot ... [Interjections.] ... impugn the integrity ... without a substantive motion. If there are allegations, a

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 138

substantive motion must be brought. However, this is an ongoing attempt to defame the President, counter to the rules which we have about a substantive motion.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Thank you. Order, hon members. Order. Wait, hon Mngxitam. Hon Douglas, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr W M DOUGLAS: I want to be recognised ... for you to please protect our speakers under Rule 92 of the National Assembly Rules. Members may not disrupt proceedings by raising points of order that do not comply with this rule. There's complete frivolous points of order to try and disrupt our member. This is because they are guilty ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, you are now ...

Mr W M DOUGLAS: ... [Inaudible.] ... because they are guilty, they must accept the accusation.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Douglas, you are now imputing motives and accusations to the other members by saying they are guilty. Right?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 139

An HON MEMBER: Guilty of what?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon members. Hon Mngxitam, you have continued on this trend. I've made a ruling in terms of a number of matters that you referred to the President ...

An HON MEMBER: Remove him!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): ... and if you continue in this vein, I will unfortunately have to ask you to leave the podium. This is now your final warning.
[Interjections.]

You can howl and scream at me, hon members. It's not going to change my mind. I apply the rules of the Assembly and you are not going to run the proceedings of this session from where you are sitting. There are rules in this House. Why do you want to be recognised, hon member?

IsiNdebele:

Num D M SKOSANA: Sihlalo weNdlu, ilunga elihloniphekileko uDugmore akadzubhuli umThetjhwana nakakhulumako; ukhuluma ngendlela afuna ngayo. Uyamlisa azenzele into afuna ukuyenza

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 140

kodwana thina nasithi siyakhuluma ufuna umThetjhwana
esikhuluma ngaphasi kwawo.

English:

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

Mr D M SKOSANA: No, no, Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): That is not a point of
order. I suggest that you go through the rules and if you have
a point of order, you rise.

The number of points of order that have been raised against
this speaker pertains to the very same rule that has been
referred to. I have asked the member on two occasions to
withdraw the statements that he has made and he has done so.
However, if we continue in this vein and the member continues
to violate the rule, I will have to ask him to leave the
podium. Please continue, hon member.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: Okay, let us turn to Phala Phala. So, it is
alleged that the phantom buyer dropped the money and didn't
pick up his Ankoles ...

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 141

IsiZulu:

... yingane kwane le. [Ihlombe.]

English:

President, you must still tell the nation how American dollars arrived in the country. ... through the OR Tambo International Airport or ... they jump the Limpopo River on the back of a crocodile? Mr Ramaphosa, you are allegedly involved in criminal ... [Inaudible.] ... from ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Mngxitam?

Mr J A MNGXITAM: Allegedly!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Mngxitam, will you just take your seat? I want to recognise the hon Skosana.

Mr G J SKOSANA: Hon Chair, I'm rising on Rule 90 ... the Rule of Anticipation, because ... the matter that the member is quoting, there is a committee of Parliament that has been established to look into it. So, the member cannot make reflections on that particular matter because there is a

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 142

special committee that has been established by Parliament to look into it.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, if you read Rule 90 in terms of the Rule of Anticipation, it refers to a matter appearing on the Order Paper or agreed upon by the programming committee for scheduling.

That matter is in front of a committee. It hasn't started its deliberations yet ... [Applause.] ... and it's not on the Order Paper at the moment. Order.

Also, the Rule of Anticipation applies when a committee has completed its work and it is placed on the Order Paper for debate and for discussion.

What I'm doing is to listen very carefully to what the member says. broad references to the matter, that is the member's right to raise it. However, when it goes into other matters that have been raised in terms of Rule 85, I will rule on that matter. Please proceed. [Applause.] Order.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: Mr Ramaphosa, you will not survive the impeachment committee. There is no safety in the so-called

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 143

Government of National Unity, GNU, numbers. The GNU won't provide protection. It will be you standing alone before the impeachment committee. You will have to answer for all the wrongdoings in your name.

The judiciary is not a forest to hide criminals. No, there shall be no repeat of the concealment of your donor scandal by the judiciary.

Mr Ramaphosa, the lives of our people have worsened under your rule. Unemployment is a national crisis. Our youth are abandoned to drugs, alcohol abuse and economic marginalisation. Over 50% are unemployed. What stops you from calling youth unemployment a national disaster so that extraordinary measures can be taken to assist our youth?
[Applause.]

South Africa is raising a generation of nyaope addicts. Why can't you declare that all graduates be employed on a compulsory basis as soon as they graduate? Our children graduate and languish in poverty and unemployment.

The landless shall not receive land under your government. Your government shows its commitment to the land reform

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 144

programme by allocating less than 1% of the national Budget. This year marks 50 years of the June 16 uprising. President, to honour those young people, please declare youth unemployment a national disaster. [Applause.] Also, as the MK Party, we move that the spaza economy must be reserved for South Africans only. [Applause.]

Comrade President, your comrades in eThekwin are involved in massive corruption. They are selling land to their friends, sometimes at inflated prices, so that they can make money. They are literally privatising state land, instead of giving it to our landless people to address the housing and land question. Please pay attention to them.

Okay, later on the MK Party will be bringing an amendment to section 25 of the Constitution to this House to ensure that land is given to our people. [Applause.] We are a black majority in this House. When that amendment comes through, we hope you'll do the right thing and vote so that land expropriation without compensation can become a reality for our people. [Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 145

I want to conclude by saying that only the uMkhonto weSizwe government shall address the massive problems faced by our people.

An HON MEMBER: Government? You are not government.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: uMkhonto weSizwe is going to be in government and uMkhonto weSizwe is going to liberate our people.

IsiZulu:

Gwaza Mkhonto, gwaza! [Ihlombe.]

English:

An HON MEMBER: You're not going to be government. [Applause.]

Ms N N CHIRWA-MPUNGOSE: Greetings to the commander in chief of the EFF, Julius Sello Malema, fellow fighters, and progressive forces across our continent and the world, before we speak about appropriations, strategic plans, key performance indicators and budget allocations, we must speak about the blood of unemployed youth in Umlazi, of mine workers in Thabazimbi, of Nasiphi Dutywa and her nine-month-old baby, of children who died of hunger in the Eastern Cape, and the blood

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 146

of black people whose labour built this country and whose suffering continues to sustain it.

South Africa is a nation built on black blood. Blood land, blood labour, blood minerals, blood wealth, blood profits, and a blood government. This debate follows the tragic killing of the 18-year-old Nhlamulo Sambo, whom, according to his mother and sister, was allegedly slaughtered like an animal for being Tsonga. The Western Cape police have stated contrary to this, but the fact remains, we are a country living in anxiety, searching for someone to blame for our realities. Poverty, hopelessness and hatred have become the language of the oppressed.

You and Leon Schreiber are caught in slumber, while shacks are going up in flames. Step in and ensure that the Sambo family receives the truth about what happened to their son, that justice is served and that the order is restored in our streets.

You do not deserve to be on a political vacation whilst the failures of your government haunt our nation, Mr President. Our people must know that we are in this situation because the President is sleeping on the job, only concerned about

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 147

protecting himself from impeachment and jail. We extend our deepest condolences to the Sambo family, but condolences are not enough, Mr President.

Nhlamulo did not die in isolation. He died in a South Africa where poor people are taught to fear other poor people, whilst the architects of inequality continue to enjoy the fruits of exploitation. He died in a South Africa where unemployment, poverty, and desperation have become so normal that violence is mistaken for justice. We hope you have a few dollars to spare from your couches to burry Nhlamulo and numerous victims of violent crimes, rooted in poverty, racism, misogyny, and blatant disregard for human life.

We demand to see you deal with crime against ordinary South Africans with the same speed you sent out our police to go look for your undeclared stolen dollars without even opening a criminal case. Your Presidency is a Presidency of press statements and investment conferences, commissions, task teams ...

Mr G J SKOSANA: I am rising on Rule 85. The hon member is casting aspersion to the President. He says the President has undeclared stolen dollars. [Interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 148

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order. Order, hon members. Order! Hon members, this matter is in front of a committee of Parliament that must still deal with the issue. It is also in front of the court that must still look at whatever has been brought to them. Nobody can thus come to a conclusion. You cannot come to a conclusion and state it as a fact. And because of that reason, I will ask the hon member to withdraw that statement. It is allegations that we are dealing with and it is not a factual statement, until it is proven or otherwise. You must withdraw the statement, hon member.

Ms N N CHIRWA-MPUNGOSE: I withdraw. Your Presidency is the Presidency of press statements and investment contracts.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member!

Ms N N CHIRWA-MPUNGOSE: I said I withdraw.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Thank you.

Ms N N CHIRWA-MPUNGOSE: Your Presidency is a Presidency of press statements and investment conferences, commissions, task teams and promises without transformation. Most importantly, it is a Presidency that is premised on the continued flow of

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 149

the blood of workers whose labour enriches shareholders, the blood of communities displaced by mining, the blood of unemployed graduates denied economic opportunities. Your Presidency is built upon the preservation of economic apartheid, and therefore, it is a Presidency built upon blood.

South Africa remains one of the most unequal countries in the world. Statistics SA tells us that expanded youth employment remains above 40%. Millions wake up every day without work and without hope. Even those who are employed are not spared from the Ramaphosa economy.

The cost of living continues to rise while salaries don't rise. And more than 18 million people depend on social grants simply to survive. Yet, we are expected to celebrate economic reforms and investment conferences with blood capitalists like BlackRock. We are expected to celebrate growth of barely 1%. I ask you, Mr President, growth for who? Growth for who?

Why must we celebrate a growth that means nothing to a graduate at home, to a mother unable to feed her children, to communities without water? Why applaud a growth that does not address ownership patterns of the economy? You boast about Operation Vulindlela, but Operation Vulindlela seeks to reform

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 150

capitalism rather than eliminate it. It seeks to attract investment without addressing ownership. It seeks to solve problems created by capitalism through more capitalism. You are literally asking fire to extinguish itself.

The land was stolen through blood. The mines were built through blood. The economy was constructed through blood. The gold of Johannesburg came from blood. The diamonds of Kimberley came from blood. The platinum of Rustenburg came from blood. The fortunes accumulated in boardrooms and gated estates come from blood. Yet, the descendants of those whose labour produced this wealth continue to live in poverty.

The top layers of society continue to own the majority of wealth, while the black majority remains excluded from meaningful ownership of the economy. This is not an accident. This is structural. This is capitalism. It is imperialism. This is exactly how the system was designed to function.

President Ramaphosa, history will not judge you by the number of speeches you delivered or by the number of investment summits you hosted and the number of commissions you established. History will judge you by whether the blood stopped flowing - the blood of Marikana, of hungry children,

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 151

of unemployed youth, of our children in the Cape Flats, the blood of every South African that was sacrificed so their prophets may continue uninterrupted.

And blood remembers, President. Blood remembers stolen land, stolen labour, stolen dignity. Blood remembers betrayal. That is why we refuse to make peace with exploitation. We reject the notion that the market will liberate our people, that foreign capital will save us. Poverty cannot be managed indefinitely. We demand the expropriation of land without compensation, state ownership of strategic mineral resources, a state bank and a developmental state that is capable of industrialisation and job creation.

We know our problems and we know the solutions. The enemy is not a Tsonga-speaking child. The enemy is exploitation and imperialism. The enemy is a system that allows a handful to own everything while millions own nothing. As long as the land remains stolen, our struggle continues. As long as wealth remains concentrated in the hands of a few, our struggle continues. As long as children go hungry in a country that is rich in resources, our struggle continues. As long as Africans are taught to hate one another while capitalists continue to profit, our struggle continues.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 152

Our people deserve justice and not patience. And we reject this Budget Vote. Economic freedom remains unfinished business in our liberation. We reject this Budget Vote because we reject you, Mr President.

Mr D BERGMAN: House Chairperson, and Mr President, the Government of National Unity ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon members! They are very excited to hear you, hon Bergman. You may continue now.

Mr D BERGMAN: The Government of National Unity was born from the process of a democratic mandate from the people of South Africa, who told us clearly that no single party had done enough to govern alone. That is the context in which this Presidency must operate, not just in name but in unity and purpose. With collaboration comes accountability. Your legacy, Mr President, as we spoke about last year, will be determined in part by the future of our state-owned enterprises.

South African Airways has received close to R50 billion in bailouts. Eskom – by the end of this financial year – will have absorbed R496 billion in government support since 2008.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 153

Transnet, which dared to request a R61 billion bailout, was declined but quietly given a guarantee facility and billions more in structured support. Denel received nearly R9 billion. The Post Office received R10 billion. Sanral received R47 billion. In total, South African taxpayers have forked over R521 billion propping up these entities.

Hon members, we must be honest on whether we will spend another half a trillion on floating state-owned entities or choose to relieve taxpayers. Mr President, let us be honest about where we are. SAA has reported a net profit of R155 million for its 2024-25 financial year. On the surface, this is encouraging. But aviation analysts have raised serious questions about the consistency of the figures, with concerns about four different profit numbers appearing in the same report and an audit opinion that Treasury itself would find alarming. A thirty million operating profit in an airline that received R50 billion from taxpayers is not yet a reason for a standing ovation. It is a reason for vigilant oversight.

Eskom's situation is more complicated. While its finances have stabilised marginally, the Treasury has been explicit. Its finances remain weak and operational performance requires significant improvement. The R50 billion in restructured

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 154

advances now replacing the original R70 billion debt relief package is not a gift – it is borrowed time. Eskom is expected to warn of potential renewed reliance on the National Treasury by 2028. The clock is ticking.

Transnet continues to fall short – with its recovery plan described by Treasury as needing to move faster. With rail freight volumes declining and port inefficiencies still bleeding billions from our export economy. This is not just a corporate problem. Every train that does not run is a mine that cannot export. Every ... container that sits on a quayside is a manufacturer losing a customer overseas.

Then, there are our water boards. By June of last year, municipal debt owed to South Africa's water boards had reached R25,1 billion – R21,9 billion in principal and a further R3,2 billion in accrued interest. This is a 151% increase over five years. Thirty-four municipalities are currently in default. Boards like Magalies Water and Vaal Central Water have come close to complete collapse. Yet, in municipality after municipality, grants are being returned to Treasury unspent. Treasury has now begun withholding equitable share allocations from defaulting municipalities – an intervention

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 155

that is legally sound but administratively uncomfortable. The Presidency cannot stand apart from this.

The Department of Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation sits within this Presidency. It was created to be the control tower of government – to watch the instruments, read the trajectory, and call out when we are heading for the mountains. Too often, it has indeed been an observation deck – a place from which we document, with considerable academic precision, the exact moment that things have already gone wrong and then write a report about it. We then need that to change.

When Transnet misses its recovery milestones, PME must not merely note it. When a water board is three-quarters from insolvency, PME must escalate with consequences. The Presidency already has a joint oversight dashboard being piloted with the Department of Water and Sanitation and COGTA to track municipal debt settlements. That is a welcome development. But a dashboard is only useful if someone is authorised to act on it when it shows. Monitoring without consequence is just watching things fail in real time. I urge the Presidency to ensure that Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation have the mandate and teeth to ensure

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 156

accountability. You cannot fix what you cannot measure, and you cannot measure what you have not counted.

Statistics South Africa remains one of the most important yet underrated institutions in this country. The decisions that business owners make about where to invest, the decisions municipalities should make about infrastructure, the decisions this Parliament makes about budget allocations – all of them rest on the reliability and accessibility of our national data.

Stats SA's data should not be locked away in technical documents that only specialists can navigate. In an era of open data and digital access, every small business owner, every economic development practitioner, every young person trying to understand why their town has no jobs – they should be able to find that information easily, freely, and in a form they can use.

Mr President, some of the proudest moments of this country's short democracy have been when the people have united. The GNU gives the country an opportunity to ensure growth, opportunity, and prosperity. Thank you. [Time expired.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 157

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): House Chairperson ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, my apologies for doing this to you. I have on previous occasions asked hon members to remove their headgear when they enter the House. You know who I'm referring to, it's you hon member and the member sitting behind you. Will you remove your caps please? Thank you. Please proceed.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): House Chairperson, President of the people of South Africa, His Excellency Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, members of the national executive ... [Interjections.] ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, let me hear what the point of order is.

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Hon Chair, I just wanted to go back and check with the Table about this because last week there was a ruling that it was okay for the one member from Al Jama-ah to wear a cap while he was busy doing his speech. There was a ruling in that session that it was fine to wear caps.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 158

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, I make the Rules as they appear here. When that ruling was made, it was an incorrect ruling, that member shouldn't have been allowed. Please continue.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): Hon Members of Parliament, the Director-General and Secretary of Cabinet, Mme Phindile Baleni, distinguished guests, fellow South Africans. President, a few years ago ...
[Interjections.] ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, I see now there is another point of order. What is your point of order hon member?

Mr J S MALINGA: Chair, we cannot have a Rule that comes from your home.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, take your seat. Hon member, take your seat.

Mr J S MALINGA: The Minister of Finance is always wearing a hat here.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 159

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, take our seat. If you challenge me, you will leave the House. Please continue hon member. Order.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong):
Distinguished guests, fellow South Africans. President, Peter Mayibuye warned us a few years ago about the beneficiaries of state capture - we will not give up without a fight.

A political party, a relatively new political party, with the biggest human trafficking scandal since the dawn of democracy - we will not give up without a fight. Jacob Zuma, a man who has evaded prosecution for over 21 years - we will not give up without a fight.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, take your seat.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): That is why they want to remove him.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, take your seat please. Hon Douglas, why - order. Order! I recognise the hon Douglas. Yes, hon member?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 160

Mr W M DOUGLAS: I am raising the point of order under - House Chair, under terms of Rule 85. The member is misleading the House as the statement is factually incorrect and misleading the House because the president had nothing to do with any human trafficking, neither has the MK ever had anything to do with human trafficking. This is casting aspersions upon the character of our members. Please ask him to withdraw.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon member. Your interpretation of the Rule is not correct. The reference is to a political party and not to an individual here in the House. If the reference was to a member here in the House, I would have ruled that the hon Deputy Minister will withdraw what he said, but it was a broad statement to a political party, and that is the ruling. Hon Deputy Minister, I see now there are more hands going up. It seems to me there is - let me hear.

IsiZulu:

Mnu K B MADLALA: Ngiyabonga Sihlalo.

English:

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Is it on the same point?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 161

IsiZulu:

Mnu K B MADLALA: Cha, bengihlola ukuthi ukhetha iphela emasini yini ngoba ngibona nangu uggoke isigqoko esimnyama futhi uyadla eNdlini. AboMkhonto kuphela okufanele bakhumule izigqoko.

English:

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon members, hon members, hon members. Hon member from Al Jama-ah, remove your cap, please! Don't behave like school children. I've made a ruling and it applies to everybody. Please! Continue, hon Deputy Minister.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): President, the Zuma family will still have to account for the children that were sold in Russia. We will make sure of it. It is indeed a privilege and an honour to rise in support of the President and the Minister in the Presidency to present the 2026-27 Budget Vote to the hon members of this House.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, please take your seat. Hon Douglas?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 162

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Hon Chair, I rise on Rule 84. The point of order is that the hon member is improperly imputing motives to another member. There are Zuma family members that are Members of Parliament, MPs, and so he is imputing false motives to our members, and he needs to withdraw.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister?

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): I withdraw unconditionally.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Okay, thank you. Please proceed. Order, hon members. Hon Deputy Minister, hon members, order. Order. Just calm down. Just calm down. Do not switch on your microphones hon Ngola, and just make comments, because you do not add and assist the process.

You are adding to the - order, hon members. You are adding to the disorderly behaviour that is currently prevailing, and the Deputy Minister will now continue with his speech, and let us observe the Rules of the House. Please proceed.

IsiZulu:

Mnu C V SHONGWE: Sihlalo ufuna ukungibona uma kwenzenjani?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 163

English:

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, hon members, I want to remind you that just earlier this afternoon there were points raised on frivolous points of order, and it is covered in the Rule. What is your point of order, hon member?

IsiZulu:

Mnu C V SHONGWE: Ngiyabonga Sihlalo ukuthi ungibone ekugcineni.

English:

Chair, Deputy Minister must not say Jacob Zuma, to him it is excellency Jacob Zuma.

IsiZulu:

Ubab 'uZuma akasabi ukuvula isitatimende sakhe saseBhangini.
[Ubuwelewele.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon members, hon members, hon members, just calm down and let us give the hon Deputy Minister an opportunity to make his input in this debate. Order hon members. Hon members, if you continue in this manner then I'm going to name you, and you will be asked

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 164

to leave the House and then you will be referred to the Powers and Privileges Committee. We are at that point now. Continue Deputy Minister.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): Our task is not abstract. It is to strengthen the unity of our people, improve the quality of governance and advance the Republic of South Africa as a whole. The annual performance plan for 2026-27 is clear. This is not a holding year. Perhaps it is useful to ground our country today ... [Interjections.] ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon Deputy Minister, just take your seat please. Hon member, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr A NCHABELENG: Chair, I was not recognised because I am at the back. Chair, you know we love you and respect you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, what is the point of order? We're not talking about feelings here. [Laughter.] Get to the point.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 165

Mr A NCHABELENG: Chair, you allowed for the booing of our member earlier. Now that the opposite, in terms of opposition, is doing equally, you're having a problem.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, that's not the point of order.

Mr A NCHABELENG: Please be impartial about this process.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): That's not the point of order. Order, order, order. Thank you for the love that you are expressing, but it is not appropriate at this time, nor do I believe it will be appropriate in future. Please proceed, Hon member.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong):
Section 83 of the Constitution entrusts the President with the responsibility to promote the unity of the nation and that we should advance the Republic. This provision speaks not only to the legal authority, but to the constitutional purpose. It reminds us that unity is not incidental to governance but positioning it as one of the highest obligations of public power.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 166

The Presidency as a centre of government, is mandated to drive policy coherence and collective accountability in pursuit of the Mid-Term Development Plan, MTDP, priorities. Hon members, it is for this reason that social cohesion and nation building should and must remain at the core of our work.

South Africa is not united by homogeneity, but by a constitutional construct that calls upon all of us to turn on a painful inheritance of division into a democratic future grounded in dignity, equality and belonging. Social cohesion is therefore not a sentimental aspiration. It is practical work of building trust between citizens and institutions, of nurturing mutual respect across differences and of ensuring that every community can recognise itself in a democratic national project underway.

Our annual performance plan gives practical expression to this obligation through a programme of action for nation building and social cohesion, with a target of 80% of implementation in 2026-27 and through a programme of action on strengthening partnership with social partners with a target of 90% implementation.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 167

These are not mere internal measures. They are instruments for rebuilding trust in the democratic state and furthering the construction of a truly united and diverse nation. In reflecting on these conditions, that either strengthen or weaken cohesion, the work of complexity scientist Peter Turchin offers a useful point of reflection. He uses the concept of immiseration to describe the erosion of economic security and social hope among a broader section of the population.

His treatises plainly warn us that where exclusion deepens, trust declines and social fracture become more likely. That insight is relevant to our own context. Cohesion cannot be separated from material conditions. A society cannot be asked to hold together while too many are burdened by poverty, unemployment, insecurity and exclusion.

That is why our annual performance plan, APP, speaks directly to the pressures our people feel, stronger employment pathways, lower cost of living, safer communities and a state that acts with fairness and competence. It asserts that the Presidency as a centre of government must coordinate the implementation of policy priorities that seeks to deliver on these priorities.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 168

In keeping with this coordination role, the Presidency, Mr President, has set itself the task of assessing Sona commitments for socio-economic impact so that delivery is not judged by announcements alone, but by its real effect on people's lives.

House Chairperson, for government, this means cohesion must be built through visible action. It must be seen in a capable and ethical state, in institutions that are responsive and fair, in safer communities, in dignified access to services and in a public administration that treats everyone with dignity and respect.

That is why this Budget Vote supports execution discipline. Hon members, citizens' engagement remains central to the work of the Presidency through both mediated and unmediated platforms. The Government Communication and Information Systems, GCIS, and its entities, Brand South Africa and Media Development and Diversity Agency, MDDA, are therefore fully poised to support this engagement programme. The GCIS is mandated to communicate the broad programme of government and empower citizens through disseminating crucial information.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 169

In keeping with this mandate, Cabinet has approved the National Communication Strategic Framework to be driven by GCIS through the entire system of government. As a department reporting to the Presidency, this work is done through full support of the Ministry in the Presidency.

In this regard, we have started a series of consultations with SA Local Government Association, Salga and various provincial governments to socialise the national communication policy and align it for provincial implementation. We have already engaged with the North West provincial government, Free State is scheduled for next week and plans to engage in Mpumalanga and others are continuing apace. This work seems to achieve alignment on three key aspects.

The first one being coordinated government messaging. The second one being ensuring that government departments set aside 3 to 5% of their operational budget to fund their communication function and ensuring support for community media through a 30% of communication and advertising spent on community and grassroots media through the system of government.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 170

This work is further strengthened by the National Communication Strategic Framework which calls for a more coherent citizen-centred and development-oriented government communication system. The National Communication Strategic Framework positions communication not as an afterthought to delivery but as a strategic instrument for building trust, taking South Africans into confidence and ensuring that a coherent message is communicated across all spheres of government.

Hon Chairperson, Brand South Africa is a custodian of our nation brand, mandated to promote our national reputation globally and domestically. Brand South Africa will only achieve this important task through nation brand alignment with all stakeholders both in the private and public sectors so that we can all understand that our actions can be brand enablers or disablers.

The work that Brand South Africa does through the support of the Presidency ensures that South African products are bought abroad, that investors do invest in South Africa, tourists visit our shores and foreign students choose our universities.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 171

Hon members, the MDDA is mandated to ensure diversified ownership of media platforms and consumption of media products curated by community and grassroots media platforms in their local languages. The MDDA's Grant and Seed Funding Programme supports the sustainability, growth and development of community media through both capital and operational investment.

This support translates to just over R50 million for 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years in broadcast equipment and operational budgets donated to community media.

Hon President, last week Thursday I had the honour to preside over the official handover of the state-of-the-art studios to Vaal University of Technology FM. This moment represented a meaningful investment in the voice, identity and cohesion of young people and the wider community of Vanderbijlpark.

Community radio stations such as Vaal University of Technology, VUT, FM hold a unique and powerful place in our society. This is not just about transmitting sound across the airwaves, it's about connecting people, it's about making sure that our communities are not only informed but also heard. In

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 172

so many ways, a community radio station such as VUT FM is the heartbeat of our communities.

Through our G20 Presidency, our country has affirmed that enduring progress depends on partnership, fairness and our shared humanity. These are apparent lessons even for our domestic governments. No community can flourish while another is left behind. No democracy can be secure while exclusion persists, and no developmental project can succeed without social trust.

These require the steady and calm hand of the President, supported by a capable Presidency to ensure that the work that is done in uprooting maleficence across the system of government, especially the criminal sector, is ably supported.

Through this Budget Vote, the Presidency's work is not only to coordinate government but to strengthen execution, restore confidence in public institutions and help hold together the deeper promise held in the democratic project.

Let us continue with humility and determination to build a South Africa in which our diversity remains a source of

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 173

strength, our inspirations command confidence and every person can feel they belong to a common future.

However, those who refuse to listen cannot demand respect from the very voices they don't want to hear. True strength is not monologue, it is a bridge and those who burn the bridge cannot wonder why no one walks their way. We have seen some in this House who style themselves as the progressive caucus walking out of the House, yet they want to engage in a debate they have abandoned. We are neither impressed nor moved by these infantile theatrics.

Sesotho:

Ke a leboha.

English:

Mr M V DANIELS: Chairperson? House Chair?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Where is he? Order, order, order hon members. Hon Daniels?

Mr M V DANIELS: Chairperson, this is not point of orders and those types of frivolous things.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 174

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): So why are you rising, hon member?

Mr M V DANIELS: I believe this may be the right - I didn't want to interrupt nobody, but I think from your platform, Chairperson, it is important that last time when we had challenges in the Dome, you made a call from there. I was going to draw your attention to that. We've waited so long to come back to the Dome after hybrid meetings.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): What is the point, hon member?

Mr M V DANIELS: Chair, the point of order is that Public Works needs to come and look at this thing. As we're sitting here, there's sand and things falling on us, there's leaves falling on us. There are some issues here with this Dome, Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Thank you, hon member. We will bring it to the attention of the relevant officials so that they can attend to it. The next speaker is the hon Gana.

Xitsonga:

Ttn S M GANA: Mutshamaxitulu wa Yindlu ...

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 175

English:

... I would have wished for hon Hlophe to be in the House so that I can shake his hand. The single biggest criticism that he has about my election yesterday is that I did not shake his hand. Therefore, I would have loved for him to be in the House so that I shake his hand.

Xitsonga:

Ndza khensa, Mutshamaxitulu wa Yindlu. Tatana Presidente, loko murhangeri wa Rise Mzansi, tlhelo Mutshamaxitulu wa Komiti ya Nkarhi Hinkwawo ya swa Tinkota ta Mfumo, Scopa, muchiviseki Zibi, a vulavula endzhaku ka loko mi hlawuriwile tanihi Presidente, u komberile leswaku mi va Presidente wa vanhu va Afrika-Dzonga hinkwavo.

English:

He reminded us that collectively we carry a weighty task. As the leader, yourself, mandated to defend, to uphold and respect the Constitution, we believe you understand the weight of being a creature of statutes.

Xitsonga:

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 176

Na mina ndzi hlawurile tolo, Presidente. Hikokwalaho, ndzi fanele ndzi landzelela nawu wa tiko naswona ndzi fanele ku landzelela Vumbiwa ra tiko.

English:

Crucially, the Constitution places oversight and accountability over you and your office directly within this House and the newly established Impeachment Committee. Whilst it is within your rights to take the Independent Panel Report under judicial review, this House must be clear, the committee will proceed with its work until such time that the courts pronounce otherwise. We will do our work without fear, without favour and without prejudice.

Xitsonga:

Mitirho yi ta vulavula, ku nga ri swa tipolitiki, kambe i mitirho yi nga ta vulavula.

English:

It is good, Mr President, that you exercise your rights, but it must also be clear to South Africans that you will subject yourself to the Impeachment Committee if we get to that stage and you are called to appear before the committee. While appearing before a parliamentary committee is unprecedented

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 177

for a President, even the late President Mandela appeared before a court of law when called, despite his personal irritation. This is the weight of leadership. These significant milestone signals strengthen our constitutional democracy.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR (Ms J Nemadzinga-Shabalala): Yes ...

Xitsonga:

... ndzi kombela leswaku Tatana Gana va vulavula hi mpimanyeto. A va vulavuli hi ...

English:

... Budget Vote 1, House Chairman.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, thank you, Deputy Minister. Members have some leeway, as we've already seen during the debate, to address other matters apart from the budget. Hon, please continue.

Xitsonga:

Ttn S M GANA: Ndza khensa, Mutshamaxitulu wa Yindlu.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 178

English:

Mr President, it has become unfashionable to speak out against what is wrong for fear of retribution. As the head of state, as Rise Mzansi, we would like for you to continue to speak out very clearly against violent groups taking the law into their own hands, profiling people and deciding who is a citizen. The government must also take responsibility for the corruption at Home Affairs and our borders. The systematic failure has fuelled tensions that are the direct outcome of high unemployment and crime. We must also confront the quiet desperation breaking our households. Our people are drowning under crashing cost of living, driving many to seek an impossible escape.

We cannot look away, Mr President, when online gambling addiction, fed by free-for-all access and advertising, ravages our communities. The government must step up and treat gambling addiction as a severe public health crisis that truly is. In closing, we will all contest the local ballot with a commitment to fostering a safe and clean ... [Interjections.] ... I will shake your hands after this speech.

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Hon House Chair, I would like to find out if the hon member would like to take a question about the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 179

Independent Electoral Commission, IEC's, R30 million that they got from white monopoly capital.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Douglas, you know better. We first enquire whether he is prepared to take a question.

Mr S M GANA: I will shake your hands.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Gana, are you prepared to take a question?

Mr S M GANA: Mr President, let us all commit to a safe, prosperous, equal and united South Africa in one generation.

Xitsonga:

A hi tirheleni tiko, Tatana Presidente, xikan'we na vaakatiko va Afrika-Dzonga. Ndza khensa, Mutshamaxitulu wa Yindlu.

An HON MEMBER: Can hon Gana give them handshakes?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order, hon members! There is no provision in our rules that after 18:00 you can just un-

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 180

mute and speak. Please remain disciplined. Dr Maimane, please continue.

Dr M A MAIMANE: House Chairperson, hon members ...

Setswana:

... bagaetsho le Moporesitente, dumelang.

English:

Mr President, I would want you to succeed. Like you want Bafana Bafana to succeed, I want you to succeed. For us to be able to achieve that, we know quite clearly that we must build one South Africa, we must have a nation that prosper, and for that to happen, those are duties enshrined in the duties of what the President is meant to do. However, Mr President, I think we can all agree that our country finds itself in a difficult place. Business confidence is lower under your leadership than it was under President Mbeki. 63 million South Africans look to the Government of National Unity for leadership, for opportunity, yet many of them find themselves in a hopeless space. They experience frustration, they are worried, and they don't live in a country that is safe. Many of them are watching corruption play itself out. Mr President ...

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 181

IsiXhosa:

... bendithetha nomama wam esithi abantu bayabhaqwa kolu rhwaphilizo kodwa akukhonto bayenziwayo. Mongameli, ndiza kucela ukuba xa usiza kuphendula apha utsho ukuba ezi komishoni zophando zingaka zenze ntoni apha eMzantsi Afrika.

English:

Hon President, in this light, I truly believe that it is in the interest of our country that we don't find you distracted. I would argue, hon members, a distracted President will become a dysfunctional President. The President, we need you at a time such as this one focused on the job at hand. Therefore, Mr President, I do not believe that we need to be spending too much time in courts fighting Phala Phala issues. I believe Parliament has a job, and Mr President, in your innocence, I believe that you need to appear before the committee and set the record straight. When President Zuma was fighting the state, we spent R30 million. Therefore, I would say, Mr President, if you want to go to court, which is your right, then maybe pay for the legal fees yourself.

Furthermore, Mr President, I would argue that in moving away from the distraction, let's focus on deliberate action. Therefore, here are some proposals, Mr President, that I would

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 182

like to put before you. The first is on economic reform. The Deputy President is in India now. They have successfully moved over 250 million Indians out of poverty. Isn't it our job to move over 10 million South Africans out of poverty into the middle class so that they are active participants into the economy? I would argue for reform.

Secondly, Mr President, when we think about the issue of crime, let's stop the Hollywood, let's appoint a permanent Minister of Police. Let's ensure that there are no more actors, and more crucially, Mr President, perhaps amend the Municipal Policing Act so that policemen that act in cities can also prosecute some crimes, so we increase the force.

Mr President, I met several departments, and many of them who have been delinked have duplicated functions. Let's narrow the state and make it more efficient. Mr President, like gender-based violence, GBV, let's end commissions and all sorts of Ministries. Let's create one centralised fund to fight the battle against violence against women. Ultimately, Mr President, we are builders. We want to build. Let's build this country. I hope you stay out of court and at work. I support. Thank you very much, Mr President. [Time expired.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 183

Ms Z KHANYASE: Chair, I extend greetings to you; the Chief Whip of the largest Minority Party, hon Ntuli; President Ramaphosa; hon members and the people of South Africa. We gather here today as we begin the month of June, a month which we dedicate honouring the strength, zeal, and fighting capacity of the youth. In this 50th jubilee of the June 16 Youth Uprising, we acknowledge that the struggle continues. The youth of today may not burn tires and march on the streets every day. However, they are in a battle for inclusion in the economy and decision-making platforms, access opportunities to be heard, to be protected and be kept safe.

Today, in KwaZulu-Natal, the Department of Education was opening the newly built state-of-the-art Mbuso Kubheka ICT Engineering and Technology School of Excellence. This is progress in action. The youth are in schools, institutions of higher learning, skill centres and programmes. They are starting businesses in unfavourable conditions, leading research and innovations that offer South Africa new solutions. They are bold and clear that they want to be part of the solution, and they do this practically.

We cannot forget about the youth who are not active anywhere, not in education, not working, not involved in any activity.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 184

As we honour the youth of 1976, we do so, acknowledging that they laid the foundation for youth to own their power, know their strength, and dare to envision entering spaces that were taboo for them in the past.

It is without a doubt that, 32 years into democracy, a lot has been done to better the lives of the people of South Africa, however today we face new challenges. Youth unemployment in South Africa has become a crisis, one that can no longer be ignored. The youth of this country suffer under open economic exclusion. This has led to the state of hopelessness, indignity, mental health challenges, drug abuse and many other social ills.

We raise this not in ignoring all the hard work that has been done in carrying out the transformative projects, but in cautioning the need for speed in implementation, the need to roll out all progressive initiatives to more areas in our country, including the deepest rural areas and townships.

Hon President, to whom much is given, much is expected. South Africa is a world-class country, and its potential has been demonstrated by the great strides that have been made to attempt to address the imbalances of the past. The bar has

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 185

continued to be raised by different terms of government, and now it must be surpassed. Government must continue to act. There is capacity to act.

Youth unemployment is linked to broader patterns of economic exclusion. Access to quality education, skills development opportunities, financial resources, digital technologies, and entrepreneurial support remains unevenly distributed across South African society. These inequalities continue to reproduce historical patterns of disadvantage and limited economic mobility.

Though government has significantly expanded access to education through programmes such as free-fee education, higher education challenges remain. Concerns related to student indebtedness and the exclusion of the missing middle who do not qualify for full financial aid and struggle to afford tertiary education remain. These barriers constrain opportunities for skill acquisition and labour market advancement.

Government has sought to address these challenges through initiatives such as the One Country, One Skills Plan; the Human Resource Development Strategy, and the Master Skills

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 186

Plan. These initiatives aim to improve alignment between education and labour market requisitions, while promoting skills relevant to the digital economy, technological innovation, and future employment opportunities.

Entrepreneurship has emerged as a critical mechanism for addressing youth unemployment and promoting economic inclusion. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, SSMEs, play an important role in employment creation, innovation and local economic development. Consequently, strengthening the youth entrepreneurship ecosystem should form a central component of South Africa's Youth Development Strategy.

There is increasing recognition that financial institutions, government agencies, and development finance institutions should expand support for youth-owned enterprises. Access to finance, business incubation, mentorship, market opportunities and enterprise development support are essential components of a successful entrepreneurship ecosystem.

The Department of Small Business Development 2026-27 strategy focuses on building an integrated Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises support system through incubation, plan and finance, innovation support, supplier development, and

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 187

improved market access. Central to this approach is the implementation of the Public Procurement Act 28 of 2024, which seeks to expand procurement opportunities for youth-owned SSMEs and co-operatives through set-asides, subcontracting and localisation measures. These reforms are intended to advance inclusive economic transformation and translate political freedom into meaningful economic participation for South Africa's youth.

Despite current challenges, significant opportunities exist within emerging sectors of the economy. Technological innovation, digital transformation and the transition towards a greener economy are creating new employment pathways and entrepreneurial opportunities. The digital economy offers opportunities in fields such as artificial intelligence, software development, cybersecurity, digital services, fintech, e-commerce, and data analysis. Similarly, the green economy presents opportunities in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, environmental management, and climate adaptation initiatives. These sectors are expected to play an increasingly important role in future economic growth and employment creation.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 188

Institutions such as the National Youth Development Agency, National Student Financial Aid Scheme, Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency, Sedfa, and Sector Education and Training Authorities have contributed to improving opportunities for many young South Africans. These are intentional interventions aimed at supporting the development of the youth of South Africa.

There is a long-term solution for strengthening our economy, such as that we are able to implement all progressive policies of government to change the lives of all South Africans without worrying about fiscal constraints. That is through putting up export quotas, beneficiating our minerals locally, in order to industrialise our economy and revive our secondary sectors. We can use our God-given mineral resources to create jobs and increase participation in the economy.

Despite the work that still needs to be done to get more young people skilled, working and funded to start their own businesses, there are success stories. The Presidential Youth Employment Intervention in Quarter 3 of the period between October and December 2025 ensured that 294 530 annual opportunities were secured through the National Pathway Management Network.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 189

The revitalised National Youth Service Programme placed 1302 784 young people in paid service opportunities. The National Youth Development Agency recently announced 100 000 National Youth Service Programme paid service opportunities, which have been unlocked through the Phase 5 of the National Youth Service Programme. The NSFAS for this year, is funding over 1 million students. Students who are recipients of social grants whilst in school are automatically approved to be funded by NAFSA.

The Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency, Sedfa, in the 2024-25 financial year, has disbursed approximately R552 million to youth-owned enterprises. This should serve as restoring hope that help is on the way. The youth who have not yet benefited from these initiatives will eventually be reached. The youth must be unrelenting and uncompromising in demanding more and positioning themselves to receive these opportunities, and to be armed with skills, qualifications and innovative ideas. I support Budget Vote 1. I thank you.

Mr V G REDDY: What I fear is that the liberators will emerge as elitists who drive around in Mercedes-Benzes and use the resources of this country to live in palaces and to gather riches. Chairperson, let me pause here and let me greet the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 190

real president of this country, our former President Jacob Zuma. I want to greet our ground forces and our commanders who are watching this debate today. I also want to greet our comrades from the progressive caucus and the congress of the Left.

After hearing the words of Chris Hani, South Africans and MK Party are asking some very painful and serious questions. Was Chris Hani warning us about apartheid or was he warning us about what the ANC would become? If Chris Hani walked into this Chamber today, what would he see? The spirit of Oliver Tambo, the spirit of Peter Mukaba, the spirit of Leni Naidoo, The spirit of Chris Hani, the spirit of Winnie Mandela, the spirit of Nomkhosi Mini. These are people that gave their lives and shed their blood so that we can have freedom. The freedom we have today was stolen by the ANC of Ramaphosa.
[Applause.]

You see, when Chris Hani comes here, he's going to ask, how is it that we found ourselves in this position? The MK Party cannot call this man here, Mr Ramaphosa, a president. I'm going to tell you why. His presidency has been marked with controversy. In 2017 ... We all know it's a fact. To all of you here in this ANC under Ramaphosa, 2017 and CR17 is

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 191

synonymous. We all know for a fact that billions were spent on his ascendancy to become the ANC president. You know it! Many of you took some of that money too ... [Interjections.] ... and you can't challenge me because I was there.

We also know that there was a Public Protector called Busisiwe Mkhwebane who found that the President ... [Interjections.]

Ms F HASSAN-DUMA: House Chair, I have a point of order.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, please take your seat for a moment, I have a hand to my right. Hon Hassan?

Ms F HASSAN-DUMA: House Chairperson, I want to rise on an order, particularly Rule 68, referring irrelevance and repetition of the speaker. What is before us is the Budget Vote debate on the Presidency, not the speaker's opinions and views on these issues. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you hon Hassan. In debates like this we give a broad political discretion to all matters in the public domain. Hon Reddy, please continue.

Mr V G REDDY: So, this is what CR17 was all about. You may not know it ...

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 192

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, I have another hand to my right. Please take your seat. Hon member, is that a new matter?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES: Yes.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Please proceed.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES: House Chair, Rules of the House are being breached because the hon member there on the side is busy taking pictures while we are in session. Can you deal with that? Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members, earlier in this sitting hon Frolick already reminded all members that there is a broadcast on YouTube where you can go and click on the part you like. Please don't do your own recording, it is in breach of our Rules.

Hon Reddy, please continue.

Mr V G REDDY: So, we find it difficult at the MK Party to refer to him as president because we know how he became the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 193

president. We know what was paid and how much was paid. We know that.

I also want to tell you why we walked out in here in Chamber. We walked out and we didn't stay here this afternoon to hear his speech because we cannot consider someone who has so many questions hanging over his head around the Phala Phala issue ... [Interjections.] ... where we see a Constitutional Court ruling that said that he has questions to answer for. There are 31 questions, but he has a habit of going to court to silence the truth. He did it in 2017, he didn't want South Africans to know where the money came from. Now he is doing the same thing.

In 2022, this Parliament and this Speaker silenced the truth ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, just take your seat for a moment. I have hands there at the back. I can only recognise one at a time.

Mr N T TSHOTETSI: House Chair, is the speaker on the podium prepared to take a question?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 194

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you, I will enquire ... [Interjections.]

Mr N T TSHOTETSI: We want to ask ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, no, no, we first enquire, hon member ... [Interjections.] ... Order, hon members! Please take your seat, hon member. I will enquire from hon Reddy ... [Interjections.] ... Order! Order, hon members!

Hon Reddy, are you prepared to take a question?

Mr V G REDDY: As soon as I am done, I will take that question. I promise you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. I have another hand there at the back. Hon member, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr S T D LOUW: House Chair, I rise on Rule 85, reflections upon members and the President. No member may impute improper motives to any member or cast personal reflections upon the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 195

President. Hon Reddy has done that, and I think he must withdraw. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, with the greatest of respect I think you need to be slightly more specific. What were the specific words which you deem to be a reflection on the integrity ... [Interjections.]

Mr S T D LOUW: He said he is a constitutional delinquent. Didn't we hear him? Let's go to Hansard ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order! Order! Hon members, I am not prepared to say that term "constitutional delinquent" is unparliamentary. Hon Reddy, please continue.

Mr V G REDDY: In 2022 the ANC used its majority and suppressed this report. Now, in 2026, they are doing the same thing, but they do not have the majority, they are using those Government of National Unity, GNU, partners to do it. If you look at the Impeachment Committee, it is packed with GNU lackeys ...

[Interjections.] ... These are parties that all received Cabinet positions from none other than Mr Ramaphosa himself. You are expecting those 19 GNU parties ... [Interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 196

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, just take your seat for a moment. Hon Hassan, you just unmuted and then blew into the microphone. That is very unbecoming of a Member of Parliament ... [Interjections.] ... Hon Hassan, if you repeat such behaviour, I am going to ask you to leave the Chamber.

Ms F HASSAN-DUMA: Noted, House Chair. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, please continue.

Mr V G REDDY: Sorry, there is another hand. I hope my time is being monitored. I have important things to say ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Your own Chief Whip wants to interrupt you.

Mr W M DOUGLAS: House Chair, I am just asking that his time be reset. We could not hear what he said because of that. so, please add another minute or two. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Douglas, we are not going to reset any time. We do stop the time of the member at the podium the moment there is an interruption.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 197

Hon Dugmore, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr C M DUGMORE: I rise on a point of order. Could you please rule on whether the description of members of this House as "lackeys" is parliamentary or not?

Mr V G REDDY: You are a lackey!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, I did not give you permission to enter into a conversation with the hon Dugmore.

Hon Dugmore, I will look into the context in which it was used. If it indeed refers to this House I would deem it as unparliamentary. If it is however a broader statement not implicating any specific member, I cannot rule in your favour. I will consult the Hansard. Hon Reddy, continue.

Mr V G REDDY: In 2026 you see that the ANC is doing the same thing, but there is something else that has happened ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, I have another hand. Hon members to my right, I am going to ...

[Interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 198

Mr V G REDDY: The more points of order we get, the more I get promoted in my party, hey. So, keep it coming.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy? Hon members to my right, I am going to recognise you but just remember that earlier in this sitting you pleaded for a ruling against what the members on my left for repeatedly raising points of order to stop the flow of the debate. Don't do the same thing.

Hon member, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr S L DITHEBE: House Chairperson, I rise with reference to members as lackeys in terms of Rule 87. Rule 87 reads ...

[Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, I don't know maybe you were distracted, I am not going to say not with us, when the hon Dugmore raised this point of order. He raised that point of order already, and I said I will look into the Hansard.

Hon Reddy, please continue.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 199

Mr V G REDDY: So, now we have a Speaker who is also finding herself in trouble with the law. You have constitutional judgement that says that the section 89 report has to be handed to the Impeachment Committee. Yesterday the Impeachment Committee sat, and no report. We also read in the media that the Speaker ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, just take your seat. Hon Skosana, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr G J SKOSANA: Hon House Chair, I am rising on Rule 85. Hon Reddy is casting aspersion to the hon Speaker. He says the Speaker is in trouble with the law. Can you rule on that, please?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Skosana, I understand the context in which that specific phrase was used, to have been unpacked when he then talked about the way in which the Speaker has implemented the judgement of the Constitutional Court ... [Interjections.] ... Order! I am on the floor. So, in the context, there is no specific inference to the fact that the Speaker has already been found to have broken the law. It is an argument, and therefore permissible. Hon Reddy, please continue.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 200

Mr V G REDDY: So, the Speaker has not produced that report, which is a requirement by the judgement, hon Skosana. She hasn't done that.

We are seeing a repeat of what happened in 2022, where this Parliament and this Ramaphosa ANC is once again closing ranks around their president ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, I have another hand there ... [Interjections.]

Mr V G REDDY: Thank you. Keep it coming ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, work with me. Please, just take your seat.

Mr N T TSHOTETSI: House Chair, I rise in terms of Rule 84 ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order, hon members! I want to hear the point of order.

Mr N T TSHOTETSI: House Chair, I rise in terms of Rule 84. The toy soldiers there are making unacceptable gestures, which

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 201

suggests that they are going to beat up people. They are doing these ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, I have already asked that we allow the debate to continue by not repeatedly raising frivolous points of order. I have not seen any threatening gestures ... [Interjections.] ... Hon member, order! Order! Hon member, this is now a further opportunity where you have raised a point of order solely aimed at interrupting the hon Reddy. The next time it happens, I am going to rule that you are acting in a grossly disorderly manner.

Hon Reddy, not yet you. Hon Douglas?

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Hon House Chair, the Rules are very clear: Rule 92 prohibits disruption through improper points of order, and they need to identify what the point of order is. Our speaker is being disadvantaged that he cannot get his points across, and he is being hamstrung by all these frivolous points of order. Could you please rule on this and make sure that it does not happen again? Thank you.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 202

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you, hon Douglas. I have now issued a guidance to that specific member that a further frivolous point of order on his behalf will be deemed as grossly disorderly. I will apply the Rules.

Hon Reddy, please continue.

Mr V G REDDY: The truth hurts, hon members, and you can see that it is hurting very hard and cutting very deep. Let's cut a little deeper now, and let's call a spade a spade.

Mr Ramaphosa, it is time you resign. Save the country and save whatever is left of the ANC. Let me speak to the ANC today. The ANC is now a shadow of its former self. Under former President Zuma, the ANC was a mass movement. In 2009 the ANC had nearly 66%, in 2014 it had 62%, and under this leadership it is 57% in 2019 and in 2014 you are now 40%. You are going cap in hand to a party like the DA ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, please take your seat. Hon Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources?

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: Hon House Chair, it is incorrect to ... [Interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 203

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order! Order! I will deal with the matter.

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: Hon House Chairperson, it is incorrect for a member to quote numbers wrongly to make a point ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Minister, that is not a point of order ... [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: It is a point of order ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, it is a point of debate. Please take your seat, I can't rule in your favour ... [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: There was no 66% in 2009 ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Minister, please take your seat ... [interjections.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 204

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES: The highest point was in 2004 ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order! Hon Minister, please take your seat. Order!

Hon Reddy, before you continue. Hon members, please don't interrupt the hon Reddy because you want to disagree with a content of the speech. If you have ... No, hon Minister, I am not giving you the floor again. If you have something to add to the debate and you are not on the speakers' list, give a note to whoever is on the list from your party.

Hon Reddy, please continue.

Mr V G REDDY: Here is another fact. Under this President, the ANC lost over 3 million voters. When hon Mmusi Maimane was the leader of the DA and a few thousand white voters left the DA because he was a black leader, they fired him. Three million of your voters left you and you are still keeping this man. Don't you think it's time that he resigned, or you take him out to save the ANC and save the country?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 205

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, please take your seat, I have a hand to my right. Hon Deputy Minister, why do you want to be recognised?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION (Mr M D Mahlobo): House Chairperson, I am on Rule 85. The speaker on the floor, with respect to Rule 85(1) and (2), has continuously not called His Excellency by president. He referred to him with derogatory terms and called him "this man". There are also a number of instances. I want you to find time and space to refer to Hansard for context on the things that are happening here. Rule 85(2) makes a provision wherein if you want to impugn on the standing of a member you have to bring a substantive motion. A number of instances have happened here. I don't want you to rule now, but please check your Hansard. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order! Thank you, Deputy Minister. Firstly, on the first point of order you raised, you are correct, although it is not Rule 85. Our Rules do require, hon Reddy, that we refer to one another as honourable or at least Minister or president in the current case ...

[Interjections.] ... Order! I am still on the floor. So,

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 206

therefore please refrain from talking about "Ramaphosa" for the rest of your speech ... [Interjections.]

The second part of the point of order was unfortunately, hon Minister, very vague. I cannot sustain a point of order which on broad terms says in many instances what the member said calls for a substantive motion.

Hon Reddy, I have a hand to my left now. Hon Douglas?

Mr W M DOUGLAS: I just want you to clarify with the Table that the use of Mr Ramaphosa is acceptable according to the Rules, Mr House Chair. That is actually acceptable and parliamentary.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): That is indeed what I said, hon Douglas, but your member did not even ... [Interjections.] ... Order! ... did not even use Mr. That is what the ruling is about. Hon Reddy, please continue.

Mr V G REDDY: Thank you very much. I think we need to get serious now. The truth of the matter is that there is no dignity left for the black child in this country. We as MK Party and the progressive forces that are seated here today, our cry is for the future of that black child. [Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 207

That future was gone the moment Mr Ramaphosa became the President of this country. He has sold out to his handlers, and these are the ones that contributed to his CR17 campaign.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, please take your seat for a moment. Hon Skosana?

Mr G J SKOSANA: I am on Rule 85. Hon Reddy is casting aspersions on the President. He says that the President has sold out to his handlers. Yes, please rule on that, House Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, indeed, the President, like all members, has sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution. When you make a statement that he has sold out to handlers, it alleges that the President is not acting in accordance with that oath and that requires a substantive motion. Please ... [Interjections.] ... Order! Please withdraw those words.

Mr V G REDDY: I withdraw "his handlers", those that paid for his CR17 campaign. Thank you.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 208

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, that is not what I asked you to withdraw.

Mr V G REDDY: I withdraw "handlers" unconditionally ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, no, I asked you to withdraw the statement you made that he sold out to his handlers.

Mr V G REDDY: I withdraw he sold out to his handlers.

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

Mr V G REDDY: He sold out to his handlers. Is that the one?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, we are not going to play games here with one another. Withdraw and continue with your speech. Otherwise, I will now hold you as acting grossly disorderly.

Mr V G REDDY: I withdraw, I withdraw.

So, what has happened today is that the ANC of Ramaphosa has gotten into bed with a party ...

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 209

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy?

Mr V G REDDY: ... Mr Ramaphosa ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Reddy, I have sensitised you. I have made that ruling. If you are going to disregard my ruling, I am going to ask you to leave the House.

Mr V G REDDY: My apology. The ANC of Mr Ramaphosa has sold its soul to the DA. So, a vote for the ANC today is actually a vote for the DA, and a vote for the DA is a vote for the ANC. Remember that when you go to the polls this year.

So, why do established economic interests appear so comfortable with this arrangement, especially with the President of this country, while poor people continue to suffer? Why do powerful voices seem relaxed while unemployment in this country deepens? Why does the Presidency feel so distant from radical economic transformation while inequality grows? The perception outside is painful, that the ANC under your leadership has drifted from the poor and became too comfortable with the status quo.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 210

Thank God former President Jacob Zuma saw the warning signs. He saw the frustration, he saw millions feeling abandoned, and he understood that freedom without dignity becomes symbolism. That is why the MK Party exists today. We are here to continue the struggle. When you see us wearing combat, it doesn't mean that we are soldiers; it means that we are a symbol of the struggle continuing. Aluta continua! That's what it means.

We want to continue the struggle for our land. We want to continue the struggle for jobs, for dignity, for safety, for a future where the black child survives and thrives.

Chairperson, please, don't come and lecture us, the poor people, about defending the Constitution while dignity collapses. A Constitution means very little; beautiful on paper, but absolutely nothing to the lived realities of our people.

Look at petrol prices. Petrol prices are going up on Wednesday. For the first time in our history ... Under former President Zuma, it was R12 a litre, let me remind you. Now we are paying R25 for petrol and R32 for diesel. All under Mr Ramaphosa. And you are telling me that life can be better? That is why we, as MK, reject this budget. Vote MK in the local government elections.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 211

IsiZulu:

Gwaza Mkhonto, gwaza!

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you, hon Reddy. Hon Reddy?

Mr V G REDDY: Yes?

RULING

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Please just remain at the podium for a moment.

Hon members, on 15 May 2026, during the mini-plenary debate of Budget Vote 41 – Water and Sanitation, hon Van Zyl rose on a point of order that the hon Reddy had used unparliamentary language and requested that I rule on the matter. I indicated that I would consider the matter given that the hon Reddy, upon inquiry, confirmed using the word but argued that the word is to be considered acceptable language amongst others because, according to him, the word is contained in dictionaries.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 212

While I was ready to rule on the matter later during the debate, the member had left the mini-plenary before I could do so. The ruling, therefore, must now be given in a full plenary. Rule 84 provides that, and I quote, "No member may use offensive, abusive, insulting, disrespectful, unbecoming or unparliamentary words or language, nor offensive unbecoming or threatening gestures."

On examining the unrevised Hansard, the repeated use of the word was confirmed. It was also confirmed that the term is contained in the online dictionary, Wiktionary, which is a crowdsourced dictionary which includes amongst other slang and other neologisms. However, importantly, Wiktionary identifies the term as being vulgar in nature.

Hon Reddy, just because language may be used in an informal setting and may be acceptable in some quarters in society, the bar for parliamentary debate is set at a higher level and we must ensure that the manner we engage with one another and communicate with people reflects the dignity, the decorum and the worthiness of this House as the representatives of the people.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 213

Hon Reddy has been provided with a copy of the unrevised Hansard so that he is fully appraised of what I'm requesting him to withdraw. Therefore, hon Reddy, even though I don't want to say the word and I'm going to ask you not to repeat it, you may just say withdraw. Please withdraw the unbecoming an offensive use of the word "unfuckwithable".

Mr V G REDDY: I withdraw that word I used, unconditionally. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. The next speaker is the hon

Mr S J MOORE: Hon House Chairperson, as we debate the Presidency's budget allocation, I want to, today, speak on the President's leadership in one of our gravest crises as South Africans, the national water crisis. In February, the President acknowledged what residents already knew from their empty taps, water had become an issue of utmost national importance. He promised us a national water crisis committee, he promised a focused national response, and we were told that a water action plan would be ready by March. It is now June. South Africans are still waiting.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 214

I submitted a Promotion of Access to Information Act, PAIA, request to the Presidency to obtain this plan, to see what commitments had been made, what interventions were approved, what timelines were set, and how government intended to turn promises into water in people's taps. Instead of urgency, the Presidency asked for more time, another month. That means that instead of an urgent plan in February, we are now in June with no public plan, no clear measurable targets, and no confidence that the Presidency is treating this crisis with the seriousness it deserves.

South Africans do not live on promises. They live in homes where taps run dry. I come from Johannesburg, so I know very well that budgets on paper do not mean service delivery on the ground.

A budget line does not repair a leaking pipe. A strategy document does not fill a reservoir. A press conference does not bring water to a mother who needs to bathe her child, cook food, flush a toilet, or care for a sick relative.

This past weekend, after routine maintenance by Rand Water, suburbs across Gauteng were again left without water from Atteridgeville and Olievenhoutbosch in Tshwane, to Palm Ridge

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 215

and Katlehong in Ekurhuleni, to South Hills, Deepsloot, and Brixton in Johannesburg. Black, white, Indian, coloured, rich and poor, township, suburb, informal settlement, and inner city. This crisis does not only affect one community. It affects South Africans.

While planned maintenance is necessary, a resilient system should be able to absorb routine maintenance without leaving communities desperate. That, colleagues, is the problem.

Our systems have become so weak, so under-maintained, and so poorly managed, that ordinary maintenance can push communities into crisis. This crisis abounds across the country.

In Palaborwa right now, residents have had no water for days because of the failure of a single pump. Families are suffering. Businesses are suffering. Public services are placed at risk. The question must be asked, how were the rights of an entire community left to hang on a single, dilapidated piece of infrastructure?

I speak today not only as a Member of Parliament. I speak as a husband and a father. I have a two-year-old daughter. My mother-in-law is currently staying with us after major

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 216

surgery. When there is no water, it is not a minor inconvenience. It affects hygiene. It affects health. It affects dignity.

And for poorer residents, elderly residents, and for people who cannot buy bottled water or install tanks, the impact is far worse. South Africans understand how serious loadshedding was. The water crisis is serious and, colleagues in some places, worse. But there is no single Eskom to blame. Instead, there are over 100 failing water service authorities.

Municipal managers who did not maintain systems. Mayors who did not prioritise infrastructure. Water boards are under pressure. Pipes vandalised. Pump stations were neglected. Reservoirs left to fail. And communities left to suffer. That is precisely why Presidential leadership is required. The Presidency exists to set national priorities. The Presidency exists to coordinate government. The Presidency exists to unlock blockages when departments, municipalities, and entities fail to act with the speed required. This Budget Vote must not be about more speeches and more promises. It must be an action budget. It must support real interventions when municipalities fail. It must demand measurable targets for reducing water losses, repairing infrastructure, restoring

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 217

wastewater systems, and ending the indignity of water tanker dependency. Business as usual, Mr. President, continues to fail.

Last year, 105 water service authorities were in distress. Now there are 109 out of 144. Things are getting worse, not better. Stitching together old plans and calling them a crisis response is not enough. South Africans need a real plan. A plan with names, dates, budgets, targets, and colleagues, requires consequences.

Mr. President, if the National Water Crisis Action Plan exists, please release it. If it is already being actioned, prove it. Show South Africans that this government understands the scale of the crisis. Show residents from Katlehong to Phalaborwa, from Diepsloot to Atteridgeville, from rural villages to major metros that they do not have to live without reliable water. South Africa does not need more excuses. South Africa needs action now. Service delivery now. Water now. I thank you. [Applause.]

Tshivenda:

Vho V ZUNGULA: Ndi madekwana Vho Phuresidennde.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 218

English:

When you came into power in 2018, you promised a new dawn, renewal, transparent and accountable leadership. The budget that you have tabled today is a repeat of what you have been saying since 2018, which has not yielded results. Instead, the country is worse off when it comes to unemployment, crime, economic growth, and other indicators. For instance, the price of petrol was R13 in 2018. Now it is R28.

You turn a blind eye on the oligopoly that constrains job creation, keep the economy in white minority hands.

Critically, where you have control in government spending, you still spend over 80% on big white companies. And Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises, SMMEs, that are black owned get less than 20%. Even with the Public Investment Corporation, PIC, which manages assets worth R4 trillion, yet less than R200 billion is invested in majority black-owned companies.

There can be no meaningful job creation without a local manufacturing drive. Why is the government allowing the destruction of local industries and destroying jobs in the process? Black South Africans are kept out of the informal sector, entry-level jobs, government contracts, and big industries.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 219

It appears as if there is an evil ploy to keep black South Africans poor, unemployed, and out of economic activity. And you, as the President, are not confronting this evil.

Minister Ntshavheni, deportations are meaningless if there is no physical infrastructure to protect the borders and there are no mechanisms to track and trace foreign nationals that have overstayed their visas. Until you prosecute the companies that enable illegal immigration by employing the illegal foreigners, the problem will not be solved.

Lastly, it would be amiss of me not to talk about the elephant in the room. You claim to be innocent on Phalaphala yet you do not want an inquiry where you can clear your name with evidence.

Mr President, you have always said you are a student of the great Tata Mandela. Madiba subjected himself to processes where he could be held accountable. He did not fight against accountability.

The Phalaphala scandal broke out in 2022, and it was not by your doing. It took a whistleblower to inform the South African citizens about what transpired.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 220

From 2022 up until now, there are more questions than answers. Surely, Mr. President, you owe the people of South Africa answers. Let me tell you why we want the truth and answers on Phalaphala. You are the head of state with powers over the entire state. Whatever Bills that are passed in Parliament need your signature to be law. You appoint judges that adjudicate on judicial matters concerning the people. You appoint Ministers that preside over the affairs of the people. You represent the country in international engagements.

If enemies attack South Africa, you are the only person that can declare war on those enemies. We want to certify ourselves that as you hold that powerful office of being head of state, you are not under any foreign, corrupt, or criminal network influence.

We want to be certain that the President of the country only advances the national interests and aspirations of South Africans. Having undeclared foreign currency to the tune of millions, for buffaloes that were never collected, and having a wrong investigation when those dollars are stolen raises questions which have never been answered.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 221

Mr. President, we will hold you accountable because of the power you have over South Africans. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: Hon Chairperson, hon President, hon members of this august House and fellow beloved South Africans, I greet you in the name of Almighty, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. I also greet you in the universal greeting and prayer of peace.

Al Jama-ah has accepted the Constitutional Court ruling and as fellow beloved South Africans, we do not stand here as enemies of the President of our country. Al Jama-ah believes this House should not allow it to become an endless political siege that paralysis the national executive. Our debates and inquiry must not consume the oxygen of Parliament to the detriment of the real work that our people on the ground are waiting for us to do. We have the impeachment committee and let it run its cause. The Presidency remains a vital institution in our constitutional democracy, entrusted with providing leadership, strategic direction and co-ordination across government.

As we consider Vote 1, Al Jama-ah recognises the significant responsibilities placed upon the Presidency during a period marked by economic pressures, unemployment, global uncertainty and the legitimate expectations of our people for a better

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 222

quality of life. We acknowledge ongoing efforts aimed at strengthening governance, improving co-ordination between departments and advancing South Africa's developmental objectives. These efforts are important and deserve recognition.

At the same time, our people continue to face serious challenges. Many communities are still seeking improved service delivery, greater economic opportunities, safer neighbourhoods and more efficient government institutions.

Al Jama-ah believes that accountability, transparency and ethical leadership remain essential pillars of effective governance. We encourage continued efforts to strengthen oversight mechanisms, improve government performance and ensure that public resources are utilised responsibly and for the benefit of all South Africans.

Al Jama-ah, further support greater engagement with faith-based organisations, civil society, traditional leaders and community stakeholders who contribute significantly towards social cohesion, nation-building and community development.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 223

Hon President, South Africans continue to demonstrate resilience, hope and determination despite many challenges. Our collective responsibility is to ensure that these aspirations are matched by practical outcomes that improve lives and restore confidence in public institutions.

Let us strengthen partnerships, accelerate delivery, promote accountability and work towards a South Africa that offers dignity, opportunity and hope for all.

Al Jama-ah supports the objectives of Vote 1 and remains committed to constructive engagement in advancing the interests of our nation and its people. Strong leadership is measured by the positive impact it has on the lives of the people. Our shared responsibility is to turn hope into opportunity and opportunity into progress, working together in accountability, service nation-building, building trust through service, strengthening hope through delivery, nation united, secured future, leadership with integrity and progress with purpose. I thank you. "Malibongwe." [Let it be praised!].

Ms D KOHLER: Chairperson, There are those who believe the Mafia was a Hollywood *The Godfather*, styled construct, irrelevant in 2026. It may have come as a surprise, though to

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 224

hear that there was a massive international policing effort last month which hit the finance network of the late Sicilian Cosa Nostra boss, Matteo Messina Denaro – the €200 million estate, the hidden properties, gold, global assets, rigged poker games, fixed sporting matches, drugs, extortion, and, finally, with 1 200 Italian officers there were 150 arrested.

The relevance to South Africa is absolute. How many South Africans behave exactly like Al Capone did in 1925? He was America's most infamous prohibition-era gangster, the King of gambling, prostitution, bootlegging, running an empire with a turnover of some \$100 million annually. The public face he wore could have been that of so many South Africans today – before the media, there was a cultivated image of a benevolent businessman. There he was, opening soup kitchens during the Great Depression and attending baseball games to show what a regular guy he was. On the flip side, the side the public were universally unaware of, was a morass of executions of rival gang members. He was seen as an upstanding member of the community until he wasn't. The St Valentine's Day Massacre revealed it all. But was he jailed for the dozens of particularly bloody murders? No! The police just couldn't succeed in making those crime charges stick. No. He was

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 225

jailed for tax evasion, sent to Alcatraz, and died of syphilis.

Now, it's ironic that here in South Africa. It seems the average person learns little from such history. However, we have some of the smartest criminals in the world. In fact, according to the Global Organised Crime Index, we're amongst the best or worst according to your perspective for organised crime networks. It's a fairly new innovation in this country. I stood on this very podium and called out the then infant construction mafia as it was first conceived in Umlazi. The warning was ignored. The so-called business forums soon spread to the Eastern Cape to Gauteng. We saw those networks threatening infrastructure and business operations with violence, with political and police enablers, and here we are with every conceivable variation on the mafia theme. As the vast criminal network that has run amok for 30 years finally today sees police and politicians arrested in near equal numbers, civilians are beginning to understand the magnitude of the problem.

The construction mafia started with demands of 30% of the work, which soon turned to 30% of the contract value, to out-and-out protection fees. The Taxi mafia is a highly lethal

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 226

network governing the minibus taxis, with heavily armed hitmen enforcing route monopolies. Any competition is simply Al Caponed. Those using alternative transport are hauled out of vehicles as they attempt to get to work or school. Then, as metros like eThekweni and Tshwane finally collapse in on themselves, up pops the water tanker mafia. It goes like this: first, ensure the water reticulation system simply stops. No water in the taps. Secondly, spend billions on water tankers, often apparently owned by politicians. Finally, charge desperate citizens per bucket for what was free water. If the driver won't oblige in terms of this extortion, simply remove him in the same way that whistleblowers are removed here today.

Then there is the big five cartel based in Gauteng that dominates the big earners, drugs, transnational vehicle theft and smuggling, high profit kidnappings and contract killings. While South Africans are out shopping at Woolworths, well, unless a bomb goes off, they live their lives totally unaware of the filthy underbelly of our country. They are the transnational scams, the cyber mafias, the copper and rail mafia that strips Eskom, Transnet and the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa, Prasa, extortion rackets demanding

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 227

protection money from spaza shops to multimillion rand developments. These mafias cost us countless billions.

In eThekweni, I know of 11 businesses that simply closed their doors after endless harassment by groups demanding details of their staff or protection money. The owners just walked away.

The result is massive unemployment, service stripped to the absolute bare minimum, salaries unpaid, potholes unfilled, sewage in our streets, electricity wires killing our children.

The question is: Where is our Intelligence cluster? Billions have been spent on them. Apparently, as we heard during the Zondo Commission, much of it stolen and expertise is flooding out the doors. We have inside the State Security Agency brilliant men and women who finally succeeded in getting us off the Grey List. But who asks: How we got there in the first place? I only have time to scratch the surface, but to trust a tubby, balding politician or police officer, thinking he looks like your grandfather, perhaps it might be wise to picture a man who looked exactly as inoffensive while he ordered his underlings to commit murders that launched a generation of horror movies.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 228

We have to go to war with these mafias. If the Italians can do it, so can we.

Indeed, our DA's Ministers are cleaning out the rot in their Ministries by cancelling the crooked contracts. I see the Minister of Public Works demanding answers about the Property Management Trading Entity's, PMTE, R70 million lease for a building that sits empty in Pretoria. Last week, the Border Management Authority, led by Minister Schreiber seized a massive R1 billion drug consignment. Still, these Ministers are also tracking down the countless ghost employees being paid exorbitant salaries and suspending crooked staff. However, until such catalytic moves are taken across every Ministry in this country, the situation will not improve, and our lives will be nither better nor safer.

Waging a war against these mafias should entail lifestyle audits published quarterly, asset forfeiture units funded like special forces, and whistleblowers given new identities, not the condolence speeches given to Babita Deokaran and Charl Kinnear. It looks like a police station where the station commander cannot be bought for the price of a second hand SUV. The Italians didn't pray the mafia away. They passed legislation that made it impossible to hide wealth. They

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 229

protected judges. They jailed mayors. We can do that. But first, we must want to more than we want the convenience of looking away. It is up to South Africa to determine whether this is a Sisyphean task, endless, laborious, and ultimately futile, or not. That's up to us. I thank you.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Ms N B Mhlauli): Hon House Chairperson, His Excellency the President, Cyril Ramaphosa, Ministers and Deputy Ministers, the hon Chief Whip of the Largest Minority Party, who is here in the House today, unlike others who are in jail for fraud, hon members of the House, fellow South Africans, good evening. I rise in support of Budget Vote No 1 - The Presidency. I do so with a clear understanding of the moment that we find ourselves in as a country.

South Africans are not asking for more slogans. They are asking for a government that is at work, that can be seen, that can be felt, and most importantly, a government that can be trusted. They are asking for a government that delivers on its promises, a government that does not work in fragments, and a government that is able to move from planning to delivery with urgency.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 230

Essentially, South Africans want a government that works for all, especially the young people of this country, who constitute 59% of our country's population. The youth of this country have, for the past 50 years, since June 16, 1976, and beyond, demonstrated that they do not lack ideas, talent, and courage to stand up for their future. What they lack is access. Through the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention, PYEI, launched by the President in 2020, we are actively expanding that door to access. The recently released Quarter 3 results of the PYEI demonstrate real, quantifiable momentum in transitioning young people from learning opportunities to earning opportunities.

In addition to the figures already quoted by the hon Khanyase, by the end of Quarter 3, 2025-26, more than 5,7 million young people had registered on the SA Youth platform, with over 4,8 million on the Employment Services of South Africa, Essa, system. Since its inception, the PYEI has facilitated access to more than 2,3 million earning opportunities for our young people. More importantly, 70% of the opportunities accessed through the SA Youth platform have been taken up by young women in particular, helping close the historical gender gaps. The Jobs Boost Outcomes Fund exceeded its targets in this quarter, enrolling over 9 100 young people and successfully

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 231

placing 7 200 of them into sustainable employment. This is funding real outcomes.

The Revitalised National Youth Service continues its rapid expansion with an additional 100 000 opportunities currently available on SAYouth.mobi, and we, therefore, call upon young people who are currently sitting at home to register on the site and apply for these 100 000 opportunities that have just been advertised, and the closing date is September later this year. The success of the PYEI demonstrates the impact of deliberate policy choices made by the ANC-led government. The Youth Employment Service, YES, which is a private sector-led initiative, which the President, in partnership with The Presidency, as mentioned by the President earlier on, has created over 228 000 youth jobs with an absorption rate of over 60% into full-time employment post the programme. And 17% of YES alumni have started their own businesses with support of the programme across sectors. These are real measurable outcomes, hon Khanyile.

The reports are released quarterly, readily available on the State of the Nation website. I would, therefore, invite the hon member to visit the website so that she can, in future, quote correct information and not the incorrect figures that

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 232

she did here earlier today. Through sustained youth investment, through sustained investment in youth employment and empowerment programmes, partnerships with the private sector, and the allocation of public resources to create opportunities for young people, this government has enabled hundreds of thousands of youths to gain work experience, skills, and pathways into labour markets. On this evidence, the PYEI is not an accidental success. It reflects the government's commitment to tackling youth unemployment through targeted intervention and innovation. At a time when youth unemployment remains one of South Africa's greatest challenges, the programme stands as evidence that the government's action can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our people. This evidence does not stand in isolation. It speaks to the 32 years of effective governance which have made South Africa a far better country than it is today.

The propagandists want us to believe that this country has gone backwards, but in fact, the numbers, as released by Statistics SA in the General Household Survey last week, tell a different story. Therefore, allow me to recount the story of South Africa in numbers, and I urge the hon Litchfield-

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 233

Tshabalala to listen closely, as she clearly stated that she pinned her entire input on ...

IsiZulu:

... idlozi, ...

English:

... and unfortunately,

IsiZulu:

... idlozi ...

English:

... does not have statistics, so here it goes. South Africa's total life expectancy at birth increased from 55,2% in 2022 to nearly 67% in 2025; 84% of households live in formal dwellings and more than half of those own those homes. This is empirical evidence, hon Litchfield-Tshabalala, that we are indeed housing the nation, not based on ...

IsiZulu:

... idlozi.

English:

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 234

Earlier, the President recounted that we have gone for over a year without load shedding. In addition to that, 94% of our households in South Africa currently do have access to electricity. On access to water and sanitation, 84% of South Africans have access to piped water, with 8,1 million of those having gained water since 2022. On connectivity, 93,8% of households have access to a functional telephone, with 85% of those households having access to the internet. In addition to that, our state-owned company, which is Telkom, declared a R560 million dividend to the government in the past financial year. Ladies and gentlemen, this is the story of South Africa in numbers, with The Presidency at the apex of driving this delivery through effective co-ordination. It is a story of a nation in progress with real tangible development in the lives of our people, as affirmed by the hon Daniels. Hon Trollip stood here and purported to do an assessment of Chapter 9 institutions. He forgot that the very institutions that he relies upon, as a Member of Parliament, are in fact a function of this government as led by The Presidency. The Constitutional Court, the Public Protector, the Auditor-General, the SA Human Rights Commission, the Independent Electoral Commission, and the broader suite of Chapter 9 institutions were authored, established and resourced by the ANC in government. The Constitution itself was, in its

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 235

principal authorship, the work of this very President. Hon Maimane ...

IsiXhosa:

... ndicela uxelele umama ukuba nazi izinto ezenziwe ...

English:

... by the commissions of inquiry, since you asked; Over R17 billion was recovered by the state to date, as a result of the Zondo Commission; Two, the Mpati Commission cleansed the governance at the Public Investment Corporation, which is Africa's largest asset manager; Three, the Nugent Commission restored the integrity of the SA Revenue Service, Sars, and recovered tens of billions of rand in revenue. The Nkandla soldiers spoke about taxes, having forgotten that the reason we have a Sars to speak about today is because of this very Presidency. Those who sought to cripple this institution now sit in the opposition benches and want to lecture us about progressive taxes. Hon President, of course, hon Chirwa, will call your Presidency a Presidency of commissions because the Madlanga Commission exposed the owner of the cult as having turned the City of Tshwane into his own personal ATM. The greed was so unbelievable that they even referred to him, in the text messages at the Madlanga Commission, as ...

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026
Page: 236

IsiZulu:

... imbungulu.

English:

The anger, in fact, is because of the shame that is being exposed today. [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Deputy Minister, please take your seat for a moment. Hon Lonzi, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr S LONZI: Chair, on a point of order: I know comprehension is very difficult on the other side ... [Interjections.] ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, hon Lonzi. You either rise on a point of order or a point of privilege.

Mr S LONZI: The member is simply misleading Parliament. There is no Madlanga Commission that saw anyone in the EFF being implicated in the Madlanga Commission. It is a lie.
[Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Lonzi, that is not a point of order. Please, take your seat. Hon Lonzi, take your

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 237

seat. As it is, I see you on the speakers' list. If you have a difference of opinion with this member, please come and tell us then. Hon Deputy Minister, please continue.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Ms N B Mhlauli): I will repeat. The Madlanga Commission has exposed the owner of the cult of having turned the City of Tshwane into his personal ATM. The greed was so unbelievable that they referred to him as ...

IsiZulu:

... imbungulu.

English:

So, the anger that we saw here earlier today is the shame of having been exposed. Mr President, you have stayed true to the promise you made when you came into office, when you said the era of impunity is over. They can feel it on these benches, which is why they stand here to insult you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Deputy Minister, please take your seat. Hon Paulsen?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 238

Mr M N PAULSEN: Chairperson, on a point of order: The speaker at the podium is casting aspersions on a member of this House.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): I don't want to ...

[Interjections.] ...

AN HON MEMBER: Which member?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order! I am on the floor. Hon member behind the hon Deputy Minister Morolong. If you unmute one more time without being recognised, I'm going to ask you to leave the House. Hon Paulsen, I don't want to add insult to injury, but which member did the Deputy Minister refer to?

Mr M N PAULSEN: Firstly, House Chairperson, we are not stupid here, Minister, and we know that you referred to the EFF as a cult, and we know who you referred to as the owner of that cult. And you are accusing that particular individual of corruption.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Paulsen, please take your seat.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 239

Mr M N PAULSEN: Chairperson, she can't hide behind innuendos all the time.

AN HON MEMBER: You are a cult!

Mr M N PAULSEN: And you allow her to get away with it. We are not stupid here.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order! Gosh! Hon Paulsen, this Deputy Minister did not mention a party's name.

[Interjections.] No, I'm not going to debate this ruling with you.

Mr M N PAULSEN: Chairperson, you can't pretend that you don't know what she's referring to. And we are not stupid. And she's such a coward. She hides behind innuendos, and you allow her to get away with it.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order! Hon Paulsen, I've made my ruling. The ruling has been made. We are moving on. If you are aggrieved with the ruling, deal with it in terms of the Rules. Hon Deputy Minister, ... [Interjections.] ... no, I have a hand there. Please, take your seat again, hon Deputy

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 240

Minister. Hon member at the back, why do you want to be recognised?

Mr N M TSHOTETSI: Chairperson, on a point of order: You have been threatening to remove us for frivolous points of order. You are not saying anything when the red berets are doing the same thing. Can you also threaten them that you will take them outside?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, I will apply the Rules as I see fit. In the bigger scheme of things, this was only their second interruption. I have made my ruling. Deputy Minister, please continue. Hon Deputy Minister, now your own Whip doesn't want you to proceed. Hon Dugmore? Please, take your seat, hon Deputy Minister.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Chairperson, on a point of order: You have indicated consistency. The hon member there made the statement in response to, hon Deputy Minister, "that you lied." But we all noticed that you didn't say anything about the fact that he said that the Deputy Minister is lying. That is not consistent, and I appeal to you to be consistent.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 241

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. I have ruled this point out of order. Deputy Minister, please continue.

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Ms N B Mhlauli):
President, your Presidency has in truth been characterised by the fact that no one is above the law, including the cult leader who is currently a convict, and that is why he is not in the House today. To the hon Meshoe, there is no crisis. The instruments of accountability by this government shall continue to work.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Deputy Minister, please take your seat. I have a hand at the back.

IsiZulu:

Mnu C V SHONGWE: Sihlalo, ephuzwini lokukhalima okuphambukayo: Besicela usicelele uSekela Ngqongqoshe ukuthi angasicelela uBaba u-Ramaphosa ukuthi angalali emsebenzini, futhi asivulele isitatimende sakhe sasebhange. Siyabonga.

English:

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, hon member, that's not a point of order. Please, let's continue with the debate. Hon Deputy Minister, please continue.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 242

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Ms N B Mhlauli): It is interesting that those with half of their caucus that's currently in court are speaking about stealing from the people. South Africans will judge The Presidency not by the number of meetings convened. They will judge this Presidency by whether the government works better when it matters the most. Our duty, therefore, is to ensure that we do so with the urgency and discipline it requires.

This Budget Vote is, therefore, a vote for a Presidency that co-ordinates with purpose, monitors with discipline, and supports reform with urgency, and places the lived experiences of South Africans at the centre of this work. It is a vote for a government that must work faster, work better, and account with more honesty. I submit it. Thank you very much.

[Applause.]

The MINISTER OF LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: House Chairperson, his excellency the President, hon members, from the outset the PAC declares its support for Budget Vote 1.

[Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 243

As Africanists and Pan-Africanists our politics is not driven by blind opposition but by a deep commitment to our people and a structural understanding of the state.

We view this budget not simply as a set of figures, but as an instrument for advancing the transformation, security and socioeconomic renewal of our country.

Mr President, as directed by you ...

IsiXhosa:

... siyavuma ukuba zikhona ezi ...

English:

... 2,5 million hectares of land, and we are going to fast track its transfer and convert those lease agreements into title deeds. We are ready and the list is ready.

House Chairperson, the PAC proudly acknowledges the heightened international profile of our country, driven largely by the initiatives of the Presidency. This includes South Africa's uncompromising firmness on the global stage regarding human rights and championing of self-determination and dignity of oppressed people worldwide.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 244

Furthermore, we welcome the aggressive drive for South Africa's exports, which must serve to give greater impetus to the industrialisation of our economy and creation of local jobs. However, external development is meaningless without internal fortification.

This budget must actively protect women, youth and people living with disabilities. The youth, whom we all agree are the future of our country, are presently besieged by structural unemployment.

We add our voice for the call to wage an uncompromising war against gender-based violence, GBV, which, as we all agree, is a national emergency. However, we cannot cure the symptom while ignoring the disease. We must attack the underlying causes of this scourge, which are the severe breakdown of our social fabric, generational trauma and economic exclusion that leaves women vulnerable to abusers.

Finally, as we look at the ever-changing and highly volatile geopolitics, the PAC stresses the critical importance of strengthening our state security apparatus. We live in a world where certain foreign interests look at our vast mineral wealth and our lucrative domestic markets not as partners, but

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 245

as predators. Our sovereignty faces continuous threats from international manipulation compounded internally by sophisticated crime syndicates that have effectively put South Africa under a state of siege. If the state cannot protect its borders, its markets and its streets, we have no nation to speak of.

Let this budget be the shield that protects our wealth and the sword that cuts down organised crime.

With these words, the PAC reiterates its support for the Presidency Budget Vote 1. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Setswana:

Rr S O R MAHUMAPELO: Motl Tautona, ne ke re ke tseye tshono eno ke go dumedise, ke dumedisa le Matona a a leng ka kwano mo letsatsing la gompieno le batlotlegi botlhe ba Kgotlapeomolao ya Bosetšhaba.

English:

Hon members, the Bureau for Economic Research, BER, has developed a scenario for Gross Domestic Product, GDP, in South Africa and they call it the African fish scenario. In that scenario, the Bureau for Economic Research projects that South

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 246

Africa's economy, by 2030, will hover around 2% growth. Our National Treasury does the same projection, to say that about 2030 our GDP will be hovering around 2%. The World Bank makes the same assertion, that around 2030 South Africa's economy, in terms of growth, will be hovering around 2,3%.

I'm giving you these figures, hon members, because when we talk about challenges of geopolitics and how those challenges impact on South Africa's economy, we must be scientific in approach.

We can come here and hurl insults at each other and so on, but we must bear in mind that if we do not adopt a scientific approach to the challenge that we face, we are not going to be able to provide alternatives to what the Bureau for Economic Research is telling us.

President, you set a target in the Investment Summit that in the next five years we must be at R3 trillion.

Now, let's understand, hon members, the Bureau for Economic Research, World Bank and other institutions that deal with matters of the economy, when they do so they looked at all

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 247

other variables and some of those variables will include, for instance, what the President from time to time will say.

So, the South African Investment Summit has achieved its strategic objective of over R2,8 trillion. So, when they look at South Africa, these institutions of authority on economy, they will look at that progress that we are making because they are adopting scientific approach to problems of the economy.

However, hon members, we must also understand that we are pursuing the objective of building a better Africa and a better world under conditions that we do not control. I will make an example. As we sit here, supply chains of the world are constrained because of the onslaught that is executed on Iran by Israel and the United States of America, USA. As a consequence of that, the Strait of Hormuz finds it difficult for transportation of goods and services to go through, as a consequence of what is happening, imposed on Iran by the US and Israel.

So, it is important hon members that when we speak economics here and we speak about the price of petrol, the price of goods and services, we talk about the prices of what our

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 248

people are consuming, we must bear in mind that what is impacted upon the prices here in South Africa and the rest of the world is exogenous factors in the economy, because we don't have control over those exogenous factors.

It is, therefore, very important for us to bear in mind that if you are a leader at the level of the President, you don't only consider what hon members are saying here, you consider factors as a whole including these exogenous factors that I'm talking about.

The exogenous factors include the fact that we are in the world where midnight there might be trumpeting trumpets which are imposing through Twitter, rattles around the world, and we have to respond to those particular situations.

There is an hon member who came here and made a point that we are doing nothing about illicit sale of cigarettes. Now, we have a challenge in the House here, hon members, of a syndrome which I refer to as systematic memory lapse. [Laughter.]

Now, if you don't have systematic memory lapse, you will remember that on this platform here, hon Minister of Finance, hon Godongwana, indicated that we are losing around 70% of tax

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 249

revenue as a consequence of illicit cigarettes. So, we must not speak about it here as if it has never been referred to.

Hon Michalakis, you come here and say ... sorry if I did not pronounce your surname properly ... you come here and say there is a lack of political will in South Africa. And I want to say to you, hon Michalakis, President Ramaphosa announced the deployment of 2 200 soldiers to deal with matters of criminality here in the country and you were in the House on that particular day. [Applause.] That's why I'm saying you might be encountering problems of memory lapse from time to time, because these facts were presented here in the House. [Interjections.]

One of the members also came here and attacked the ANC and says the ANC was absent during the Freedom Charter in 1955.

Just in summary, the build-up towards 1955 Freedom Charter, one of the leaders of the ANC who went around the country to mobilise people and there were over 50 000 people mobilised, as a build-up, was the Black Pimpernel Nelson Mandela. And Nelson Mandela came from the ANC Youth League, hon Paulsen. We must also remind you that here in Cape Town, as a part of build-up to the Freedom Charter, a leader of the ANC, ZK

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 250

Matthews, was one of the leaders who led the processes that resulted in the culmination of the Freedom Charter.

[Interjections.]

Now, I'm going to urge hon members who are confusing what is objective, what is subjective, in as far as South Africa's economy is concerned, because I don't have time. Please look at what China has done based on Deng Xiaoping's philosophy of opening up the market of China, therefore, fusing in the variables of China's economy matters of marketism. So, the Chinese have mastered the art of dealing with these matters of marketism.

Hon Reddy, when you go to a meeting for the first time as a committee of Parliament, one of the first things that you do there is not to study a report, what you do in the first meeting of Parliament like the committee did yesterday, of impeachment, is to appoint a Chairperson. Subsequent to the appointment of the Chairperson ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Mahumapelo, just take your seat for a moment!

Hon Reddy, why do you want to be recognised?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 251

Mr V G REDDY: House Chair, is the hon member prepared to take a question?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): I will enquire from him.
You can stand down!

Hon member, are you prepared to take a question?

Mr S O R MAHUMAPELO: Yes, as soon as I'm done, Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Okay. Please proceed!

Mr S O R MAHUMAPELO: When you arrive in a committee like you did yesterday, you elect a Chairperson and the Chairperson has been elected, it is only after the Chairperson has been elected that the report will then come to that particular committee. But in addition, it's a memory lapse problem again, the Speaker, through the Announcements, Tablings and Committee Reports, ATC, circulated the report of section 89 on 11 May to all of us here, we've got that report. So, don't go to a committee and ask for a report that is in your gadget.

There is also a member who came here and wants us, hon members, to adopt what I call microwave diplomacy. Now,

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 252

microwave diplomacy is when you seek simple solutions to complex problems. So, they want South Africa to cut corners by adopting this microwave diplomacy.

Now, we are not going to adopt microwave diplomacy because we as the ANC are a disciplined force of the left, which means as a disciplined force of the left we will not seek to provide simple solutions to complex problems that are facing society. [Interjections.] [Applause.] We will, for instance, at all material times, continue to call for the resolution of conflicts all over the world through engagement, by discussing. We will continue to call for engagement so that we can resolve conflicts that are facing the world.

Hon Bergman, I'm going to refer you to a book written by Johan Keynes, another one by Abalena. If you read those two books, they will tell you that a role of a state in building an economy is very critical. You come here and say the role of the state must be reduced in South Africa, and in the process of that, you confuse yourself, you say electricity is expensive, but at the same time, you are saying the government must do something to resolve that, but at the same time, you are saying the state must not play a role in making sure that you deal with the ... so, that's confusionism, which is raging

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 253

in your head, and you must liberate yourself from that confusion because it is self-inflicted.

In the end, hon members, we are calling for the African continent to unite, for Southern African Development Community, SADC, to come together, President, to address the challenges that we are facing with our fellow brothers and sisters who are here in South Africa, either illegally or legally. The only way is to talk as SADC and resolve the problem jointly. Ke a leboga [Thank you.]. [Applause.]

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Chairperson ...

Sesotho:

... kgotso, Maafrica.

English:

Hon Mahumapelo, you're talking about contradictions. The last time I checked, your SG said you are centre social. Today, you regard yourself as a left. There is the contradiction.

Budget Vote 1 must be evaluated not mainly on expenditure, but on whether The Presidency is providing strategic leadership, policy coherence, constitutional governance and public

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 254

accountability. The effectiveness of The Presidency is inseparable from the credibility and integrity of the President himself.

The President was presented as the custodian of the Constitution, the champion of ethic leadership. In the face of the fight against corruption, many South Africans placed their hope on this Thuma Mina project. However, the Phala Phala controversy has raised serious questions about accountability, transparency and public trust. The President, who campaigned on an anti-corruption platform, has found himself in the centre of a saga involving a large sum of foreign currency.

Whether or not the legal process has reached a final conclusion, the political and ethical questions remain. The Presidency cannot preach transparency to the nation while the questions concerning transparency continue to surround the highest office in the land. The Presidency must, therefore, answer the simple question: How does it restore public confidence when the conduct of the Head of State himself becomes a matter of national controversy?

Equally important in planning, The Presidency oversees the National Development Plan, the Medium-Term Development Plan,

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 255

District Development Plan and numerous sectoral strategies. Yet, one must ask whether these plans speak to one another. Are they an integrated instrument of development or have they become a parallel document read by separate officials in a separate department with separate priorities? The governance challenge extends further. Does The Presidency have a functioning policy coherent mechanism that ensures that all Ministries move in the same direction or are departments operating as isolated islands pursuing disconnected priorities, while communities suffer the consequences of fragmented policy uncertainty?

The UAT believes that South Africa requires a Presidency that is beyond reproach, anchored in constitutionalism, accountability, ethical leadership and policy coherence. The people deserve a government that acts as one government, speaks with one voice and leads by example from the highest office in the Republic. The UAT rejects Budget Vote 1.

Xitsonga:

Khanimaba! [Va phokotela.]

Mr S LONZI: House Chair, the President has a tendency to run away when we speak here. He did it during the state of the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 256

nation address, Sona, and I see he's doing it again. But his colleagues will inform him.

We must begin by conveying our heartfelt condolences to the family of Nhlamulo Sambo, a 19-year-old young man from Limpopo whose life was brutally cut short in Mossel Bay yesterday. We extend our sympathies to his parents, his sister, Nonhlanhla, and all those who loved him. It is believed that Sambo was a victim of the lawlessness which has engulfed our nation over the past months and weeks.

Welcome back, Mr President.

House Chairperson, the President and commander-in-chief of the EFF has for many years warned against the normalisation of Afrophobic vigilantism and the hatred against black Africans would eventually cost innocent South Africans their lives. This is precisely because the cousin of xenophobia is tribalism. The cousin of Afrophobia is tribalism. The two are simply inseparable.

Mr President, what should concern you even more as Head of State is that these vigilante groups are not operating in secret. They are breaking the law openly in front of law

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 257

enforcement officers. They are beating and assaulting people in front of the police. Why should we not believe that this violence is state-sponsored? Why should we not believe that this anarchy is sponsored by you as the state, when crime is committed in front of those who are supposed to be custodians of the law? Where is the voice of the Minister of Police?

Mr President, when you rise and respond here, you must reiterate and outline what you will be doing to address this crisis before more South African lives are lost. You must never get tired of explaining yourself to the people of South Africa.

Mr President, in your Sona, you stood before this House and committed to the employment of an additional 10,000 labour inspectors to protect South African workers from exploitation and address non-compliance with labour legislation. Where are the 10,000 additional labour inspectors, Mr President?

[Applause.] The Minister of Small Business Development stood before South Africans and announced a R500 million for the Spaza Shop Support Fund, SSSF, for South Africans. Where is the R500 million for the SSSF for South Africans? How many township entrepreneurs have touched it and felt it?

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 258

Mr President, in the same Sona, you promised the country a new university in Ekurhuleni, a promise which you made in 2020, by the way, six years ago. Yet, the Minister of Higher Education has failed to identify a mere site, Mr President. There is no site for a commitment that you made six years ago, no foundation, no construction team and no building plans. Mr. President, these Ministers clearly do not take you seriously.

When a President speaks and makes a commitment before the nation, Ministers and government departments are supposed to work around the clock, day and night, to ensure that the commitments made by the President become a reality. Yet, time and again, your promises are ignored by your own Ministers. Do you not think that you have lost the moral authority to discipline them? Because leadership is not just about giving instructions, leadership is about setting an example.

How do you demand accountability from your Ministers when South Africans are still waiting for accountability from you, Mr President? How do you insist on transparency from your Cabinet when the Phala Phala scandal continues to cast a shadow over your presidency? Mr President, South Africans watched in disbelief as allegations emerged that millions of dollars were hidden and stuffed under couches in your private

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 259

farm and residence. They watched as questions were raised about how that money got there, how much was there and why was that money not declared?

I heard some members of the ANC raising a point of order. It's not the EFF that said the money was not declared. It's the SA Revenue Service, Sars, and the SA Reserve Bank. But perhaps the reason why so many South Africans remain uneasy about Phala Phala is because it reminds us of your questionable relationship with big business interests, Mr President. It has revived questions that have followed you throughout your entire political life.

You know, Mr President, when many of us were growing up in the student movement, we were told that you were the preferred candidate for big business. We were told that you enjoyed the support and mentorship of the Rupert, Menell and Oppenheimer families. We were told that they regarded you as their guy. We were told that you are their prodigy. We were told that when President Nelson Mandela chose Thabo Mbeki as the Deputy President, you became so upset that you didn't even attend President Mandela's inauguration.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 260

You left politics, Mr President. You went into business and years later, you came back. So, the question we must ask is what made you come back to politics, Mr President? Who persuaded you to leave business and return to politics? We ask this because South Africa now knows that you tried to resign as President on two occasions. This is not a rumour. Your national chairperson of the ANC, sitting right in front of me, confirmed this, yet somehow you remained.

Who exactly persuaded you to stay, Mr President? Was it really the ANC leadership? Was it really those who sit behind you in this House? Or was the pressure coming from somewhere else, Mr President? Was it Stellenbosch, which concluded that despite the crisis facing our country, you remain the safest pair of hands for their interests? Are they the ones who told you not to resign, even when unemployment remains at catastrophic levels under your leadership? Are they the ones telling you not to resign, even when millions of young people wake up every morning without hope of finding work?

Are they the ones telling you not to resign, even when workers struggle with rising costs, petrol, diesel and minimum wages, deepening their poverty further? Are they the ones telling you not to resign, Mr President, even when municipalities are

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 261

failing to deliver basic services to our people? Are they the ones telling you not to resign, even when the Constitutional Court told you and your party that what you did was wrong by using your majority to try and hide the truth? Are they the ones who are telling you not to resign, even when your own conscience is telling you to resign? Mr President, Phala Phala is your Achilles heel.

You know, when we watch movies, Chair, couches, furniture and things like fridges, beds and wardrobes are often used by criminal syndicates to transport drugs, money, weapons and even to transport and traffic human organs. They use furniture to conceal the criminal proceeds and move things around without ... and avoiding public scrutiny. This is why many South Africans will struggle, Mr President, to accept the explanation that this money just found its way into your couch because when you hide money in the couch, you must first damage the couch. You must cut the couch. You must create a hole in the couch to stuff that money into. So, what exactly happened in your Phala Phala farm, Mr. President?

When people hear that millions of dollars were discovered inside furniture, they do not think about your ordinary farming operations. They think about the methods which are

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 262

used all over the world by criminal cartels to hide things that cannot withstand public scrutiny.

This is why you fear the impeachment committee. This is why the ANC fears the impeachment committee. We know that you don't care about the vote that will come at the end. What you are scared of is the scrutiny when we continue to dig deeper into what happened at Phala Phala farm, Mr President. When that moment comes, you will sit alone on that chair. No network of powerful friends will be with you. No proximity to wealth and business elites will be able to shield you from the truth that will be placed on record. Not the Ruperts, not the Oppenheimers, not Stellenbosch, not the Menells and not even your own caucus of the ANC.

Mr President, presidents and Prime Ministers across the world have resigned for far lesser things. They have resigned for simple lies and scandals. But even when the Constitutional Court says to you, you are wrong, you are insisting on digging your heels in. Mr President, history will not remember you for Phala Phala alone. History will remember you for refusing an opportunity to resign even when the people of South Africa wanted to give you a dignified and honourable exit ... [Time

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 263

expired.]. Do the honourable thing, Mr President, and resign.
[Applause.]

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Hon Chairperson, hon members and people of South Africa, I greet you all in the name of My Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ and in the language of the Khoi and San people ...

[An unofficial language spoken.]

English:

As the MKP, we reject Budget Vote 1 of the Presidency. There is an African proverb which teaches us that the fish rots first from the head. Leadership matters. The character, integrity, courage and moral example of those who govern determine the destiny of a nation. In politics perception matters. Not only my perception, but the perception of millions of ordinary South Africans who watch this Parliament and ask themselves whether the same rules apply to those in power as applies to everyone else. The truth is that the public perception is that this Parliament used the ANC majority and the Rules of this House to shield the President from full accountability regarding Phala Phala in the Sixth Parliament. Now the perception is that the government of

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 264

national unity, GNU, is doing the same in the Seventh Parliament, and will do the same during the impeachment hearings using their majority to whitewash and shield the President, even though there is a perception of guilt.

The impeachment is already a mockery as the chairperson is from the GNU. Rise received more than R30 million from the Stellenbosch mafia. So, they are already compromised and biased even before this process begins.

Similarly, the public perception is that questions were avoided rather than answered by the President. We need to see more of the President coming out and answering. That is what we want in the impeachment or in court. Whether one agrees with that perception, the subsequent Constitutional Court findings that the President has a case to answer to this House and the public regarding Phala Phala. It is irrelevant, it's immediate and it needs to be done.

Trust in public institutions is built not merely on legal outcomes, but on public confidence that leaders place accountability above political expediency. This is no longer the case in this House. This debate is therefore not just about the budget, but about the ethics of what the governing

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 265

GNU majority can veto, defend, excuse or explain away in this House by virtue of their majority, rather than what is the right thing to do. It is upon what's expected from those entrusted with the highest office in the land. South Africans are not asking whether something or someone can survive a parliamentary vote, but is the President guilty of what was done? Has the President broken the law? That is important. This House is selling its soul because it is not voting with its conscience, it is voting with its party lines. It is voting not for what is righteous and what is good and the character of a man. It is voting according to party lines and to defend someone that has been shown to be in the wrong.

One of the most troubling developments under this budget has been the growing concentration of state power within the Presidency itself. Today, the Presidency exercises unprecedented influence of intelligence co-ordination, national security structures, key law enforcement appointments, military deployments and strategic state decision-making, including the appointment of judiciary like Constitutional Court judges.

Through the National Security Council Intelligence reforms, Presidency-based co-ordination structures and direct oversight

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 266

mechanisms, more and more authority has been concentrated in the Union Buildings. Yet all that intelligence did not lead to uncovering corruption at the highest level. It took the bravery of General Mkhwanazi to reveal the truth, despite the President having all the power and knowledge at his fingertips. Yet despite this concentration of power, South Africa has not seen accountability.

Increasingly, citizens perceive a state that acts swiftly and publicly against political opponents like arresting MKP Members of Parliament, MPs and Whips, and even illegally incarcerating President Zuma without a trial. Yet the same cannot be said about the DA and the ANC insiders found guilty of crimes. They are protected by this President, they are protected by this House, they are protected by the Rules of Parliament. How much of the rest of our members are genuine? How much is political persecution? How much is the President and others wielding the state influence and the state power to stop the rise of the people through the MKP, through the EFF and through other progressive parties?

No, this is unjust. And where there is a perception of injustice the people on the ground will take their anger to the street, and if they cannot get help from the politicians,

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 267

they will take law into their own hands. This is what has happened with March and March. We, as the MKP, will support the people to rise up and say, no more - no more corruption, no more hiding of what should be out and be exposed. We need to see people held accountable. We need to see the President held accountable.

The President has failed to address the most pressing issues of our generation. [Interjections.]

Mr N T TSHOTETSI: House Chair, these people are not debating about Vote 1. They are not relevant to the debate that is on the table. They are speaking their own issues.

[Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members from my left, please, do not confuse. Hon member, I have previously dealt with this matter and clarified that this is a political debate. No member is strictly limited only to the budget at hand.

Furthermore, I have warned you before that if you raise another frivolous point of order, I am going to ask you to leave the Chamber. Therefore, you must now, please, leave the

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 268

Chamber. [Applause.] Hon member, please, leave the Chamber. Hon member, I have made my ruling. Or do you need assistance to leave the Chamber? Serjeant-at-arms, please, assist the member to leave the Chamber. I can only recognise one hand at a time. I am going to the Whips.

Mr G J SKOSANA: Hon Chair, we respect your ruling, but I want to check. Now, the point of order is for a different speaker, and not on the same speaker that he raised a point of order before. It is a totally different speaker.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Even though you are saying you respect my ruling, but you are actually challenging it. My ruling is final. Hon Douglas, continue. Hon Douglas, you may sit down. Hon Deputy Minister, are you starting a new point or are you also challenging my ruling?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR (Ms J Nemadzinga-Tshabalala): House Chair, I thank you for recognising me. I do not want to challenge your ruling, but the hon member ...

[Interjections.] ... has raised a point of order from the Rules. From the Rules, there is a point of debate, and he must be relevant.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 269

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): I have made my ruling. The Rules also clearly states that once the ruling has been made, it is final. You can take it further.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR (Ms J Nemaadzinga-Tshabalala): But the MKP has been abusing us the whole day, and that's unfair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Douglas, please continue. Hon Deputy Minister, I have not given you permission to unmute. [Interjections.] Hon Douglas, I have another hand from my left. Hon member, I am going to recognise you. However ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: How can you ...
[Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Deputy Minister, I have not given you permission to unmute. Hon member, if it is not anything new, you also run the risk of being declared being grossly disorderly. Please, do not challenge the ruling.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Hon House Chairperson, I rise on a point of privilege, and I want to

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 270

address you. You are abusing your powers. You are bias. Your ruling itself borders on biasness because you are intimidating everyone in this House. We have a privilege to speak as members of this Parliament. You can't be bullying us like that. Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): You have now abused the Rules you, yourself. I have made my ruling and it is final.

Hon Douglas continue. Hon Daniels, unless if it is something new.

Mr M V DANIELS: House Chair, I am going to say what has not been said before. For the record I want to state that the PA is in agreement with the previous speaker that we believe that you are abusing your powers.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. It is interesting to hear that the ruling is final. Hon Douglas, please continue.

Mr W M DOUGLAS: We have seen enquiry after enquiry and promise after promise. Yet for South Africans' life continues to get harder. There is more unemployment. The municipalities are

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 271

running to the ground by this coalition government. Let me remind you that coalition governments are in charge of the municipalities today. They must not come and make promises in our communities that they are going to fix what is broken in the communities because they broke it. They broke the water. They broke the government. They broke the systems. And now they want to come and get our sympathy. Mr President, it all happened under your watch. You need to take responsibility.

We need a Presidency that benefits our resources, industrialises our economy, pursues land justice, stands firm against external hostile narratives and stands for the interests of the people against global elites and the politically connected.

We, as the MKP, say enough is enough. We, as the progressive caucus, are standing together. [Time expired.] We will not participate in this farce anymore. We are done and we are out of here. Thank you very much. [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members! Hon members! Hon members, I am on the floor. Hon Reddy! Hon Reddy! Hon Reddy!

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 272

Mr G J SKOSANA: Hon Chair, you have been defending the hon Reddy, you have been defending the MKP and you have dismissed the ANC member. Now: Do you see your people? They do not want to listen, even you.

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

Mr G J SKOSANA: For members who just walk out is a gross disorderly conduct. Members cannot mobilise one another and then stage a walkout like they did. Chair, can you please make a ruling. If possible, refer the matter to the relevant committee.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. I will take the matter based on advice, and specifically on the hon Reddy who ignored me while he was still in the Chamber. I will deal with that.

IsiXhosa:

Mnu. B B NODADA: Sihlalo weNdlu, malungu ahloniphekileyo, ntozakuthi zoMzantsi Afrika, ndiyanibulisa ngale njikalanga. Molweni.

English:

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 273

Mr President, I was not meant to be standing at this podium today, but I insisted because I wanted to land this message directly to the Presidency. Today, I could have been lying in a hospital bed fighting for my life, or my family could have been preparing my funeral while everyone in this Parliament sent their condolences. This weekend, my friend and I were victims of a crime that almost cost us our lives. We were violently attacked. He was stabbed six times while I fought for my life against drug addicted criminals who exploited a dark alleyway to Humewood Beach Park where stolen cables were never repaired, street lights did not work, bush clearing was not done and there was no security patrol. I was almost a statistic of how the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality fails to keep our streets safe. Another headline, another grieving family.

I was fortunate enough to make it out alive. Thousands of South Africans sadly don't. I have spoken many times in this House about combating crime and having functional municipalities to protect communities. However, that has fallen on deaf ears in many instances. I hope that today you will listen to this story and maybe take action in some of the proposals I make to you. Crime rips lives and communities apart.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 274

I am no exception. Thousands of families are victims of failing municipalities and unsafe streets. This weekend, I came closer to it more than anyone ever wants to or deserves to. Had we not fought, had the response time been slower, the same fate suffered by countless victims of violent crime would be ours. We would be dead. Thanks to the Mount Road men and women in blue and the St George's Hospital. We are now on our road to recovery. But gratitude alone cannot fix a broken system.

Mr President, criminals thrive when municipalities fail at the fundamentals, when streetlights stay broken, when stolen infrastructure is ignored, when bushes become hiding places, when police are under-resourced and when local governments stop governing. That is the reality in Nelson Mandela Bay. Criminals are running riot in Nelson Mandela Bay. Yet Mayor Lobishe hollered out our metro police. Despite being located in one of the Nelson Mandela Bay's most dangerous crime hotspots, the Warmer SA Police Service, SAPS, satellite station has remained closed since 2017. And this is not an isolated failure. In a city where 126 metro police officers have only three working vehicles per shift, over 100 funded posts in the metro's safety and security department have stood vacant for nearly two years. Yet the municipality has spent

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 275

R69 million on obsolete 15-year-old security equipment while leaving almost 80% of its safety and security budget unspent. So, the little it managed to spend was wasted in overpriced and outdated equipment. While there aren't enough personnel, working vehicles or stations, or security cameras, this money should have been used for an effective camera network across the city, to build an effective joint operations centre for police, metro police, private security and other emergency services. Or to invest in technology already indispensable in Cape Town like Shotspotters. How many vehicles or officers could the wasted R62 million have paid for? Could those officers have been patrolling the street where we were almost killed? Could they have been on patrol to stop murders of Ibanati Peter, Sinotando Malinga, Nitalyanda Ntoni and Michelle Ambral who were killed in Nelson Mandela Bay just this year?

Mr President, the army deployment is a temporary measure that has yielded no benefits to gang-ridden areas like the northern areas. And worse, you, praise the mayor of Nelson Mandela Bay's self-proclaimed 80% performance while residents endure crime, corruption, collapsing services, unemployment, water outages and electricity failures.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 276

No family should have to live in fear because government cannot keep the lights on, literally and figuratively. Today, Mr President, I'm asking for action. Not condolences, not platitudes, just simple action. I would like you, when you respond tomorrow, to commit to establishing a fully functional joint operations centre in Nelson Mandela Bay, where police will collaborate with the municipality to ensure cables are fixed, bushes are cleared, cameras are installed, drone and other technologies used to find criminals, more boots on the ground through SAPS, metro police and the private sector to make communities safer and prevent more people dying through gang violence and women and children being raped.

The Nelson Mandela Bay Flying Squad is dubbed as the dying squad. No high performance vehicles, one narcotics dog for the entire metro, seven vehicles for anti-gang operations – not enough, just seven. No wonder the Eastern Cape, and particularly the Nelson Mandela Bay, continue to rank among the country's leaders in murder and rape.

But 80 km from the Nelson Mandela Bay is the DA-run Kouga Municipality where they have invested in a 24-hour joint operations centre, an ever-growing CCTV network, first responder drones, a security app for residents, license plate

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 277

recognition technology and dash and body cams for the police. Same in the City of Cape Town where we have ShotSpotters. Mr President, these examples prove something simple. Safer communities are anchored by competent and compassionate local governments.

The DA will do everything in its power to ensure municipalities can deliver water and electricity, root out corruption and fight crime to create environments of economic growth where people are lifted out of poverty. South Africans are indeed tired of speeches after funerals, tired of promises after statistics and endless calls for patience while criminals and gangs run their communities. When you respond tomorrow, do not give us just simply words. Please, commit to the action that I have requested today. Commit to actioning a joint operation centre with devolved power to fight crime in the country's murder capital, Nelson Mandela Bay. Commit to properly resourcing the flying squad to fight gang violence.

Mr President, our lives begin to end the day we remain silent about things that matter. Otherwise, we too will end up in the grave of crime. If we fail to act against crime and local government failure, more South Africans will not merely lose hope, they will lose their lives. I thank you. [Applause.]

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 278

Mr M G MAHLAULE: His Excellency, President Cyril Ramaphosa, hon members in the House, and fellow South Africans, we must first deal with an isolated political grandstanding in this House. Separate theatrical performance from the sober realities of governance, and anchor this House back to the programmatic vision delivered by our President.

We knew exactly what the opposition would do today, and they did not disappoint. They brought poetry, anger, and grievances to a debate that requires economic logic, legal precision, and a commitment to the people of South Africa. The hon Litchfield came here and called South Africa a growing neoliberal economy and then uses that label as a reason to reject the budget. We see that as an oversimplification of the debate.

Our economic framework is a contested mix of market mechanisms and strong redistributive programmes such as social grants, public services, and targeted industrial policies, none of which fit neatly into a textbook of neoliberal model. The real test of this budget is not an ideological slogan, but whether these allocations expand jobs, strengthen the public sector, and tackle inequality. But anyway, she was not here to listen to the President and what he said. If the member believes that the economy is too market-driven, the logical step was to propose

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 279

amendments to strengthen public investment and regulation. Simply walking away from the budget abandons the very workers and poor communities they claim to defend.

The hon member invokes Sankara's line that "you cannot carry out fundamental change without a certain amount of madness." As if that justifies irresponsible grandstanding in this House. Sankara was not calling for irrational governance. He was talking about the courage to break with old, unjust formulas and to invent a better future through principled, disciplined leadership. Fundamental change in a constitutional democracy still requires lawful, accountable, and evidence-based decisions about the budget. The 'madness' Sankara spoke of is the moral bravery to confront corruption and privilege, not the political recklessness of rejecting every budget without offering a credible alternative.

I was going to speak to hon Mngxitam and tell him that I know a man who has used courts since 2005 till today to hide from accountability and certainly that is not President Ramaphosa. [Applause.] The courts today are dragging that man that I know and he knows, kicking and screaming to answer for his corruption case in Pietermaritzburg High Court. Maybe the right fingers hon

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 280

Mngxitam should look at are those four fingers which are pointing to his direction.

The less said about hon Reddy's contribution, the better. He is a clear testament that the ANC kept crooks and cronies for too long within its ranks and we can only be happy that they finally left the ANC so that it can renew itself without construction mafias, water tanker mafias and all forms of criminality. You know, there is a very dangerous slogan that has been adopted by the MK Party here. The slogan of Gwaza Mkhonto, gwaza, has become more dangerous to themselves as opposed to their enemies. Since the beginning of the 7th administration ...

IsiZulu:

... bagwazana bodwa.

English:

They have been stabbing one another every day, and we can count many bodies who were here in this House and are not here today because of that spear. As we watch this unfold, we must not dare disturb them or even waste our energy on them. They will finish each other themselves with the spear. That spear has just stabbed its own Chief whip now. Now as we are sited here, they don't have the Chief Whip in the MK Party.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 281

I wanted to speak also to hon Zungula, who is my friend, and remind him to go back in time and look at the time his party removed him as the leader of his political party. It was exactly at the time he and his party crossed the line and wanted to be one with MK Party. The spear which is wielded by a madman has hit him as a casualty. It did so because the man behind the spear is exactly how I have characterised him, a mad man, and he will finish all his children even before the enemy advances.

As we predicted that the EFF, through hon Paulsen, will stand here trying to claim a monopoly over the pain of the people of Palestine. The EFF's claim which reduces the President's legacy to bravery over Israel and that he has therefore failed is misleading and politically motivated. Our movement's foreign policy has always balanced principles with prudence. We protect South Africa's national interests, uphold international law, and advance peace and human rights. Reducing complex diplomatic decisions to a single issue ignores achievements in service delivery, economic support programmes, and social justice reforms that benefit the very millions that they claim to represent.

The very same theatrics were heard from hon Chirwa, who also claims that the EFF has monopoly over the pain of the landless

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 282

people in our country. We do not see the issue of land merely as a political trophy. We understand that if we fail in equitable redistribution, we will deepen inequality and destabilise our democracy. But our approach is sophisticated and careful. Land is the primary economic sector and the geographic competitive advantage of South Africa.

We are correcting the spatial biases of the past by ensuring the equitable distribution of public and private investments directly into rural and township economies. We are turning our townships from labour reservoirs into economic epicentres. In doing so, we are not leaving our traditional leaders behind. If the EFF genuinely cared about measurable outcomes that the president has spoken about, it would engage constructively with policy solutions instead of encouraging land grabs everywhere they go.

Hon Khanyile of the DA's accusation that the Presidential Youth Stimulus does not account for funds is incorrect and misleading. The programme includes detailed budgetary allocations, transparent reporting mechanisms, and co-ordinated partnerships across national and provincial departments to ensure funds reach young people. This administration has already disbursed support

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 283

through targeted grants, training stipends, and enterprise development funds.

So, instead of spreading unfounded doubt, what the DA should do is to spend more time doing what a government is supposed to do, to serve our people fully instead of pretending to serve our people out there and denounce government when time for accounting in this House comes. You cannot part-time to be in government unfortunately, it's either you are in, or out.

Hon Mileham, you should spend some time and energy advising the DA on how to bill residents in the City of Cape Town. The residents of Cape Town want to know when the DA municipality will refund their money which it illegally charged. It charged them and the court declared that it was unlawful. Don't be like a pot calling the kettle pitch black when they are burnt from the same fire.

Is it not ironic that hon Trollip comes here and lectures this House about failures of Nelson Mandela Bay when he was at the centre of the coalition that plunged that metro into instability and decline. During his tenure as mayor, the council became mired in factional battles, motions of no confidence, and governance paralysis that directly undermined service delivery

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 284

and public confidence. So, when he now pretends to speak as a clean outsider, South Africans must remember that he helped create the very conditions he condemns today.

Hon Daniels, there are some people out here in red overalls. They used to insult Minister Mckenzie and call him a "pantiti" [bandit]. Now, the tables have turned, and we have a "pantiti" who is just waiting to change from red to orange overalls and if revelations at the Madlanga Commission are to go by, we are still to see this "pantiti" having extended stay in prison. [Applause.]

All in all, we have an opposition that offers nothing but grievances, slogans, and attacks on our democratic institutions. They want a spectacular crisis because they thrive in chaos. We leave the rhetoric to the benches opposite us, and we take the work to the people of South Africa. I thank you. [Applause.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members that conclude this Budget Vote debate. Order, please! The hon President will have an opportunity tomorrow to reply to the debate. That concludes the business for the day. I request members to stand and remain standing until the presiding officer has left the Chamber.

UNREVISED HANSARD
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026

Page: 285

The House adjourned at 20:59.

UNREVISED HANSARD