

The Weekly

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FS BACKS LAND

EXPROPRIATION

■ Parly review committee wraps up visit...

■ Locals tell committee whites did not buy land...

By: Ramosidi Matekane

Free Staters this week spoke with one voice in support of amending South Africa's constitution to enable government to expropriate land without compensation as it beefs up efforts to address the skewed land ownership patterns in the country.

Section 25 of the Constitution makes it clear that expropriation of property is permissible to effect land redistribution or to achieve some other public purpose or for the public interest.

The Free State made its voice heard this week during a visit by the parliamentary committee conducting public hearings on the matter in Botshabelo and Welkom.

The hearings kicked off last week in the Northern Cape and Limpopo provinces, and are expected to head to other provinces to solicit comments and views from the public on the proposed amendment of the constitution.

Lewis Nzimande, the co-chairperson of the parliamentary review committee laid down strict rules for the members of the public to abide by during the hearings, giving each one of the set of 20 speakers per turn only three minutes to state their views.

He cautioned residents that had filled the venue to capacity not to dwell on matters that do not have anything to do with the mandate of the

committee, pleading with them to focus their comments and views only on the proposed amendments for land expropriation without compensation.

"As you know, it is public record that your political parties agreed on this amendment while others did not, and also you as members of the civil society agree and others disagree, so today those views will also play out. There will be those of you who agree and those who do not, so please when talking address the committee not your enemies, friends or families," explained Nzimande.

He also asked the audience to refrain from interfering or disturbing the speaker on the podium when they disagree with them, cautioning against preventing the committee from listening to diverse views.

Tshepile Sempe, from Welkom, told the

committee he supports the proposed amendment to the Act, but with some reservations.

"What worries me most is that the whole issue has now taken racial lines and polarising us as society. It has divided blacks and whites, with whites appearing not to be supporting the amendment," he pointed out.

He added his Afrikaner friend had expressed concern that with land expropriation without compensation in use he stands to lose most of the things he owns.

Sempe said this is a shallow cry compared to black people who work at a farm for five generations of owners. "I asked my friend to show me one white farm worker in the country; there is almost none because most of them are working as project managers. The real people that work the farm is our people and they must appreciate what government is doing looking after them."

Tsietso Motshwane, a resident of Thabong in Welkom, echoed Sempe's sentiments on the land issue, citing the Anglo-Boer war which ended in 1910 giving birth to the South African republic under whites only administration, and using this argument to say Afrikaners never bought the land they own.

Motshwane noted, "If history books have to be believed, one would find there was an Anglo Boer war and Afrikaners won it, now the same history does not speak of there being anywhere they bought the land, from whom they bought it if they did?"

He also bemoaned some traditional leaders' claim over land, arguing that no African king owns the land and that this valuable commodity is the property of the people of the continent.

Matjhabeng municipality executive mayor Nkosinjani Speelman was also there to add his voice to calls for the return

of land to its rightful owners.

"We are not against white people. However we are of the view that the dignity of black people will not be restored until their land is returned, and the committee must expedite this to avoid people taking the land on their own by force," he said.

Another resident, Thomas Macingwane from Virginia concurred with Speelman.

"We all know that the land was not only taken through the barrel of a gun because there was also legislation that sought to make sure black people are excluded from land ownership, hence we have to use the same means and come up with legislation that will correct past injustices," he contended.

Macingwane said in its current form, the constitution is ambiguous when it comes to land expropriation, adding the law needed to be amended for clarity purposes.

"The constitution does not have to say maybe when it comes to the land question, because this gives a sense to current owners that they can refuse to let go of the land if they so wish, hence it must be amended so that it is clear and unapologetic," he added.

Mokhouane Baloyi agreed with land expropriation without compensation on grounds that it would help alleviate the challenge of forever mushrooming informal settlements.

He said selfish tendencies by farmers, some owning 15 farms and using only two while others lay idle, have to be brought to an end and a sense of sharing instilled.

Afriforum and the Democratic Alliance were some of the organisations opposing the proposed constitutional amendments citing that investors were going to leave the country and food security compromised.

Present for the Free State hearings were Dumisani Cimbi, Steve Swart from the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP), Kekotsile Suping from the ANC, Thandeka Mbabama from the DA as well as Sibusiso Mncwabe from the National Freedom Party (NFP).

Member of Parliament Hlengiwe Mkhali from the Economic Freedom Fighters as well as her boss, EFF chief whip and MP Floyd Shivambu were also present.

In its resolution at its 54th national conference at Nasrec in December, the ANC called for land expropriation without compensation to be "included among the mechanisms at our disposal."

Premier wants taxi widows back in business

By: Neo Ntsele

Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela has given taxi associations three months to transfer the ownership of taxis owned by some of their deceased members into the names of their widows.

Ntombela said it was unfair that the widows had struggled for several years to get taxi permits owned by their late husbands transferred to their names.

It emerged during the meeting which was also attended by Police, Road and Transport MEC Sam Mashinini that several widows in the province had lost their husbands permits to some unscrupulous taxi associations.

"I want the MEC to leave a mark and ensure that corruption is dealt with so that those who fallen victims can be able to make a living by reviving their taxi businesses" said Ntombela.

Ntombela's meeting with female taxi operators and owners was also attended by board members from SA's biggest taxi council, Santaco, to discuss the long standing issue of permits.

For years the taxi association has been dealing with cases of widows and orphaned children who are struggling to get permits once owned by their lost loved ones due to corruption.

Briefing the gathering, Santaco representative at the meeting, Malefetsane Maphanyane, said the transfer of the permits should be signed for by the widow after the death of the husband, and if she doesn't want, it can be passed on to a new owner.

The whole process is expected to take approximately three months to be completed, including an application which should be overseen by all senior members of the board for the changes to be confirmed.

However, he added, within the taxi associations, widows have no say in what happens to their permits as they are transferred to new members within a day without their consent.

Maphanyane produced documents which he said proved that transfers were being done without the consent of the widows.

One of the victims of this sad scenario is Motshoa Letsitsa, 36, who told The Weekly she became victim to this scam after the death of her father in 2002.

She said when she demanded her father's permit she was told the machine is not operating. She was later told that her father's file was missing.

Mashinini was asked by the Premier to intervene as she found the news difficult to stomach and ignore.

The MEC made an assurance to the widows that he would look into each case with the eye of an eagle.

He however made it clear that vehicles operating as taxis without proper documentation would be seized.

"It is impossible for me to leave the matter unattended as we will not allow any form of corruption within the province, these actions not only destroy families but also increase the unemployment rate," said Mashinini.

He urged taxi owners to register their vehicles in their names to prevent chancers from taking advantage.

Ntombela promised to work closely with the taxi associations to ensure that corruption is prevented and cheated widows are given back their permits.

In three months, said Ntombela, a progress report on the matter would be shared with widowed taxi owners.



Loud and clear . . . Matjhabeng municipality executive mayor Nkosinjani Speelman

Eskom wage talks continue

Eskom and unions are set to meet again today (Fri) to continue with wage talks after unions were given four working days to seek a mandate on Eskom's latest offer from their members.

Eskom first offered unions a wage freeze, saying it had no money for increases.

After unions threatened a prolonged strike, it upped the offer to 4.7% and then 5%, which were rejected.

Eskom then offered 6.2%. It gave the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA) and Solidarity an opportunity to present the offer to members.

Eskom spokesperson Khulu Phasiwe confirmed to Fin24 yesterday that the wage talks would continue.

"As far as we know the negotiations are still set to continue tomorrow where we are optimistic that all parties are set to reach an

“Our offer was 6.2% and they have gone back to their constituency to revert to them. They would have to formally present their response. We will take it from there afterwards

agreement and settlement,” said Phasiwe.

Phasiwe said while there was no guarantee of the offer's acceptance, the parties did not negotiate haphazardly and would continue with formal talks on Friday.

“Our offer was 6.2% and they have gone back to their constituency to revert to them. They would have to formally present their response. We will take it from there afterwards,” Phasiwe said.

Numsa spokesperson Phakamile Hlubi-Majola said: “The talks will continue tomorrow. We will convene with the other unions. We will issue our response to the offer which we will announce our response in the meeting with Eskom and the other unions first”. -News24

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MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION GROUP

Mlamleli vows to get it right

Mayor engages community on resettlement

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

“Your lives are in danger and you cannot continue to live where you are,” a pleading Mangaung Metro Municipality executive mayor Olly Mlamleli told an urgent community meeting at Caleb Motshabi on Sunday.

According to the mayor, 360 families have erected their shacks on top of a water pipe which belongs to Bloemwater.

Mlamleli said a similar meeting was held last year at which the community were urged about the danger of building homes in that area and the harsh consequences should the pipe burst.

In attempt to prevent loss of lives, the municipality then relocated the families to safer sites. However, in the process the municipality failed to put precautionary measures to ensure the transferred residents do not move back, she noted.

Addressing the community, which welcomed her with open arms, the mayor acknowledged this oversight was short-sightedness on the part of the local authority.

“We should have put some form of warning signs to caution you about the danger of living in that place,” Mlamleli told the meeting.

She also revealed some residents were informed about the danger of residing in the area during the relocation of the previous group sometime last year. As a result, the 360 families currently residing in the danger zone would be relocated and the area handed over to Bloemwater to ensure proper structures preventing communities from erecting houses there are put in place.

However, Mlamleli did not mention when the exercise to relocate the families would start.

“We don't want to find people having placed themselves in that space as it's only reserved for the 360 families and not anyone else outside of the number,” she emphasized.

As the battle for vacant sites persist, community members told the mayor that they ended up living there out desperation to have their own homes, a point she recognised.



Finding common ground... Mangaung Executive Mayor Olly Mlamleli addresses the community of Caleb Motshabi.

Admitting this was genuine issue, Mlamleli cautioned that people should refrain from living in danger zones out of desperation, citing: “No amount of desperation should lead you to putting your families in danger. It's not worth it.”

The mayor's call was heeded by the community. She informed them the municipality would continue to pursue the matter as it seeks to find solutions to the ever-growing demand for sites.

About 7 500 homes would be built in Caleb Motshabi as previously announced by the Free State provincial government during the tenure of

now ANC secretary general, Dr Ace Magashule.

Mlamleli, who was the MEC of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs at the time, said the commitment made by government still remained.

“We promised people houses and we are going to deliver as promised,” she said to loud cheers.

By doing so, the mayor said the municipality was not doing the community any favour, adding: “The Freedom Charter clearly states that there shall be housing for all. Therefore, by building houses and giving you the necessary

basic services, we are not doing you any favour. This is the promise and commitment made by our forefathers when the adopted the Freedom Charter even before some of us were born.”

However, before the project can start, Mlamleli said a vetting exercise would be conducted to ensure that those identified are the correct beneficiaries.

With a lot of foreign nationals found in the informal settlement, she noted the process would also help the municipality gain thorough understating as to how many foreign nationals were residing in the area.

Premier rallies male govt employees

■ Calls for ‘irrelevant’ cases to be scrapped

■ Directs govt executives to recruit internally first

By: Ramosidi Matekane

In a move aimed at accelerating service delivery, Premier Sisi Ntombela on Tuesday assembled hundreds of male public servants under one roof to rally them behind her vision of ensuring the provincial government works better for the local citizenry.

From here, the Premier will be criss-crossing the Free State consulting with public servants in other towns for their buy-in into her plans and to formally introduce herself.

Ntombela met with female government employees a month ago with the aim of getting a better understanding of the challenges they face on the work floor.

Tuesday's meeting with male government employees was held at the Mangaung Indoor Sports Centre.

Helen Kekana from Ntombela's office on gender demographics of the workers hired by government, revealed there is a total of 69 109 employees, with men comprising almost 64 percent of the workforce and women about 34 percent.

The frank-talking Ntombela admitted she had to find her composure before meeting the male employees because they are considered the closest beings to God, having been created in His likeness, according to the Holy Scriptures.

“It was easy for me talking to female employees because they are like me. However coming to men, I had to take a pause and think deeply because now I was going to talk to people made in the image of God, so respected and powerful and unique in their own way,” said Ntombela in explaining her delayed meeting with the employees.

She praised the high turnout of men at the event and thanked them for ensuring the province continues to deliver services to the people even when faced with challenging socio-economic and political times.

The Premier called on managers, heads of departments and members of her provincial cabinet to ensure irrelevant and weak work-related disciplinary cases are scrapped and long outstanding cases dealt with and closed.

She said it was insensitive of managers and heads of departments to fire employees willy-nilly, mostly men who are bread-winners on flimsy grounds as this adds to the national burden of families in distress due to economic hardships.

“If you fire a man that is a bread winner for his family from work you must know that you are causing trouble for that particular family, more so because men's tears won't just fall to the ground without causing you strings of bad luck in your own life.

“We must fast-track long standing cases and close the irrelevant ones without delay,” Ntombela said to roars of approval from men in the packed hall.

Departmental heads should respect and implement awards won by workers from bargaining councils on disputes and not trample on their rights on the basis that they are not financially resourced to take matters forward, she pointed out. The Premier also decried that some managers were pre-occupied with litigation than serving the public.

On the same token, she spoke against men who loaf at work and do not contribute to oiling the provincial government's service delivery machinery.

“You work for the department but what are you doing to make a positive contribution? At the end of the month when you get your salary do you feel that you deserve it? Why, if you are a servant of the people, tell people knocking on your door for help to come tomorrow while you can assist them right away? Do you know if they'll have money for taxi, or if they took their last money to come to you?” Ntombela quizzed, amidst dead silence.

She noted she had instructed members of her cabinet to look for skills inside before sourcing

outside as a way of promoting current staff.

Ntombela cited the case of an employee who has been serving one department at the same level of pay and rank for the past 45 years with necessary experience and qualifications, but continued to be overlooked for promotion.

“When I heard about this man's story, I was then told he is not the only one, that there are people that served for years and have never since been considered for promotion, hence the directive I gave for recruitment to focus internally before going outside,” said Ntombela emphatically.

She also lambasted men who take advantage of young girls and exploit them sexually, saying they betray the image of men as protectors.

She further called on men to emulate former late President Nelson Mandela, whose centenary is being celebrated this year, in playing a more fatherly role for their daughters.

The Premier's indaba with male government employees was graced by the attendance of agriculture MEC Dr. Benny Malakoane, MEC of Cogta Oupa Khoabane, education MEC Tate Makgoe as well as police, roads and transport MEC Sam Mashinini.

well as engage in networking activities,” said the event organiser.

“By exhibiting at this event, businesses can create lasting brand impressions in the target audience. The main purpose of trade show events is to showcase a wide variety of options for attendees and business to engage and interact with each other. Participation will also enable increasing engagement and capturing potential contacts as well,” he added.

Sithole also said research has shown that trade shows of this nature are one of the most cost-effective sources of leads and potential sales as people from different walks of life converge in one place.

Youth business expo to attract investment

By: Martin Makoni

Local company Betterdays Technologies (Pty) Ltd has teamed up with Free State youth agencies and Kopstar Entertainment Solutions (Pty) Ltd to hold a business expo to showcase businesses owned by youths and allow them to sell their ideas to potential investors.

The inaugural Free State Meet-the-Investor Expo will be held from August 23-24 August at the Rose Garden Park in Bloemfontein.

The event is expected to give young entrepreneurs a chance to showcase their

products and services.

Event coordinator Siyazine Sithole said the primary objective of the occasion is to provide a platform for young entrepreneurs to meet potential investors and showcase their concepts and business ideas.

“The objectives of the Expo are to attract investments into youth business projects and innovation; promote networking and joint venture partnerships between investors and aspiring entrepreneurs in Free State; familiarise youths with funding eligibility requirements and products as well as create a platform that

will give accurate information to entrepreneurs,” said Sithole

He noted about 70-80 percent of small businesses fail within five years due to lack of funding and information, among other things.

Good information is essential for effective operation and decision making at all levels in businesses.

“This is a multi-sectoral exhibition aimed at promoting a wider array of goods and services that can be showcased, with a view to creating a platform for youths to interact, exchange contacts and discuss business opportunities as

Soapbox

GENERATIONS

Lucy uses aggression to hide her pain. Zitha tries to talk her way out of her betrayal. Cosmo is late for his meeting and Mei is nowhere to be found. Tshidi gets what she wants but has to swallow a bitter pill in the process. The Diale's realise that Lesedi might not be the only one with a 'problem'... Tau calls off the engagement. Mrekza can't deal with the cold hard facts and flees. Sphe plays the game, not knowing she's the one who's being played. Gadaffi is determined to do what must be done

ISIDINGO

Majola receives a visit from Cebisa and Mavusana that leaves him agape but when Nina drops by he's left in two minds. Anja lies to Wendy as she seems to be getting

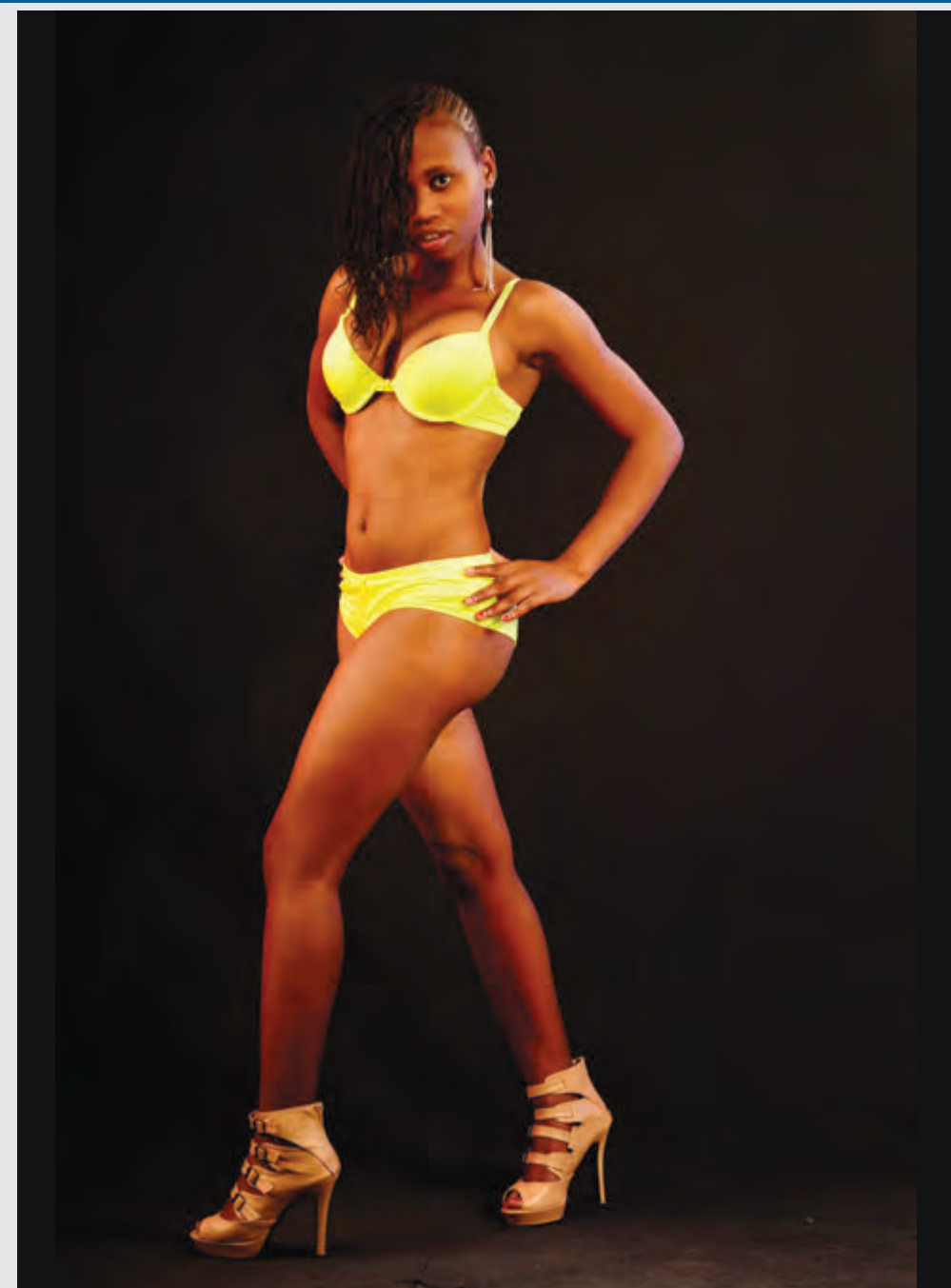
closer to Joshua. Thabang gives her a warning which she chooses to overlook. Gabriel is embarrassed in front of hotel guests. Sechaba finds a comforting shoulder from someone he least expected. Lerato tries reaching out to Sechaba but it's clear they are slipping away from each other. Ntando gives Kgothalo a compliment that has her feeling 21 again. Nina is still head

SCANDAL

Young rogue solicits an old enemy to help him discredit a new one, but ends up discrediting himself. A mother is deeply offended when a drastic accusation is made against her son, and crushed when another one is made against her. A wife's imagination finally boils over and leads to a fiery confrontation with a loved one. Romeo pulls a fast one over a new enemy who in turn also pulls one over Romeo. Wesley is set up, and Phindile suspects that someone is gossiping about her. Romeo unwittingly tips his hand to a dangerous enemy.



100%



Twenty-two year old Leena Gxalaba of Bloemfontein is business management at one of the local private colleges. She describes herself as an outgoing person who is fun to be with with.



Zwai reflects on his R3m tax bill

TKZee founder Zwai Bala admits that his R3 million tax bill has changed the way he spends his money.

Zwai, along with his TKZee bandmates Tokollo Tshabalala and Kabelo Mabalane, found themselves in trouble with the tax man in 2006.

At the time, the revenue service said the group failed to pay taxes between 1999 and 2005 after receiving money from Sony BMG Music Entertainment, the SA Music Rights Organisation and Electro Mode Music South Africa.

Speaking to Drum he said: "They let us just slide and make the money and then they came into our accounts and checked on the amount of money that had gone in or through the accounts and then they charged us for income tax."

The other problem for the members of the group is that they never submitted tax returns, something Zwai admits they should have been smarter about.

"I had to prove to them after this that not every money that went through my account was for personal use. As a musician, I do not use all the money for myself. I have to travel around... so I had to justify that not everything that went in was for personal use."

As a solo artist now, the 42-year-old admits

it has taught him to be smarter with how he handles money.

"I learnt the importance of paper trail and documentations in regards to invoices. Now with the work that I do with Artistic Practitioners, I always tell the artists who work with me that I can't pay you until you submit an invoice."

Having been casual about the money that went into his account when he was in his youth, Zwai has urged young artists to learn lessons from his mistakes.

He is keen to see them avoid the scenario of other musicians who often end up penniless when they die.

"We don't think beyond these notes, which is Micky Mouse. We need to think beyond the notes and the glam," he pleads. "There are people with nice voices all the time but you need to know how to make money. You need to have a plan."

A lot of youngsters want to make an album, want to be on TV but they haven't accounted for anything. They wait for the calls and when they get that big gig they can't manage it. They can't manage growth and they can't manage success. They are not prepared for it and therefore they can't make the most of it."

-Channel24



Put on ice ... Free State musician Presss

Local muso disqualified from Joy of Jazz

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Presss will no longer entertain thousands of music lovers with his soothing sounds following a disqualification from the Standard Bank Joy of Jazz music festival.

The shocking announcement was confirmed by the producer of the upcoming music festival, T-Musicman.

According to the organisers, Presss, who needs know introduction in the South African music industry due to his impressive catalog of classics hits - both a singer and producer - has been removed from the line-up for allegedly contravening contractual obligations.

Mantwa Chinoamadi, General Manager of T-Musicman said it was unfortunate that a decision of this matter had to be reached, saying, "He was without a doubt one of the stars expected to do wonders at this year festival."

Not wanting to divulge much on the matter, Chinoamadi explained the organisation was looking at a befitting replacement and will announce the artist/artists who will fill the spot in due course.

Presss' sacking from the festival that is now of international status has triggered questions from fans who have fallen in love with his music over the years.

Standank Bank Joy of Jazz ambassador in the Free State and promoter, Ayanda Roda confirmed the news, regarding the musician's withdrawal as unfortunate and unnecessary.

Roda, who over the years has been known

for his continuous fight to put Free State Artists on the map by performing on big stages beyond Macufe, expressed his disappointment over Presss' reported unprofessional conduct.

"Am truly disappointed in his conduct. For a person who have been in the industry for such a long time to behave in an unprofessional manner is something I did not expect," said the soft spoken Roda.

According to Roda, Presss was a no-show at the official launch of the festival. This after all necessary bookings where made including his flight, accommodation, and his fee as he was expected to render an item at the official launch of the festival's 21st edition.

The 2018 line-up was unveiled on Wednesday evening at Parkmore, just a few kilometres from the Sandton Convention Centre, where magic is expected to unfold over three nights from September 27.

"It's rather unfortunate to experience or have to deal with such negativity as we're constantly fighting to have our local artists featured in such prestigious shows and showcase their talent to the world. This is not just a South African festival; it has long surpassed that and to have one of the province's top male vocalists unable to represent the Free State in this manner is truly disappointing," Roda added.

The launch party wasn't just another staid announcement affair, with poet Sibulelo Manamatela enthraling guests as she first paid tribute to the late Bra Hugh Masikela.

This year's star line-up includes Cassandra

Wilson (USA), Femi Koya (Nigeria), Oliver Mtukudzi (Zimbabwe), Bilal (USA), Kengo Nakamura and Carl Fredrik Orrje (Japan/Sweden), Buika (Spain), Banda Kakana (Mozambique), The Nairobi Horn (Kenya), Letta Mbulu (SA) and David Sanborn (US), among many others.

Roda said the show provided an opportunity for Presss, who without a doubt is counted among the best male vocalists in the country, with an opportunity to showcase his worth and talent at one of the biggest stages the country has to offer.

"To regard his absence from the show as setback would be an understatement. It's a huge blow to both him and the province," he pointed out.

It's alleged that organisers will take legal action against the local muso for the costs incurred. But Roda refused to be drawn into commenting on the matter, saying, "I am not the best person to speak on the matter though am aware that legal action will be instigated against him."

T-Musicman Chief Executive Producer Peter Tladi contacted by The Weekly on Wednesday afternoon said, "We will speak on the matter as and when we are ready." Tladi reiterated Roda's remarks that indeed they were disappointed in how the whole matter had been handled.

Attempt to get hold of Presss were fruitless as was not available for comment.

Roda said, "Much as the show is more focused on Afro-Pop, it doesn't necessarily mean we have to close out other genres particularly as the event is not about us, but rather giving people something fresh, present and relevant to their desires."

Andy T's second coming is not a surprise following his dazzling performance last year against the country's top musicians.

This will be Lady Zamar's first time.

"Am always humbled to perform for my fans. However, going to a place the first time one never really knows what the reaction would be and that stress you out a bit. But we're hoping for the best," said Zamar, whose debut album, King Zamar, has earned her a spot among Mzansi's most sought-after vocalists.

Though not her first time in the City of Roses, she maintains that one can never really undermine the power of music lovers when it comes to expectations.

"I've been in the industry for quite sometime now and one thing I've learned is that music lovers are very particular about what they want and their expectations of you and that is something you can never take for granted," the Love is Blind hitmaker noted.

One of the revellers who tweeted about the event, Stembiso Zondo said he loved the fact that event had punted as an occasion for couples.

"I'll defiantly be taking my girlfriend along with me, and by the look of things, we're bound to have a great time. This will be my first time in attendance and it definitely will not be my last," Zondo wrote.

Roda vowed that the show will once gain be a success thanks to various line-up which speaks to a broader audience.

General tickets cost R200 and R350 for golden circle.



Afro fest returns... Organiser of Afro Festival Ayanda Roda.

Afro Fest line-up released

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Danduzza Productions has ended months of speculation around the possible line-up of this year's highly anticipated Afro Fest music show.

Organiser of the show, Ayanda Roda announced a fused line-up of national and local acts to serenade hundreds of music lovers come July 28 at the Performing Arts Centre of the Free State (Pacofs).

Roda who delivered a sterling show last year, bringing in Andy T, Vusi Nova and Jaziel Brothers, released the line-up on Wednesday, ending months of speculation.

Multi-award winning female vocalist, Lady

Zamar real name Yamikan Janet Banda will headline the show.

She will star alongside Andy T who makes his second appearance at the event. Afro-traction (Mnike), Afro Sound Bank and DJ LeGoody are among those expected to dish out expensive music on the night.

This will be the third instalment of the music festival. In 2016 the show was a sold-out concert with only two acts, The Soil and Mohlakeng Accapella from Allanridge in the Free State.

With last year's show, themed love, this year the fiesta sees dance mixed with Afro-pop, a combination that is expected to resonate well with revellers' desires.

Clocolan sangoma jailed for tempering with grave, body

By: Martin Makoni

A sangoma from Clocolan, about 160km to the east of Bloemfontein, was this week slapped with an effective five year jail term after pleading to

guilty to tempering with a grave as well as the corpse in the small farming town.

In a statement, the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) said Mpho Mokhethi, 42, pleaded guilty to three counts including the

violation of a grave and a corpse before the Clocolan Magistrates Court.

Magistrate Petro Jacobs sentenced Mokhethi to 12 months for the violation of a grave, four years for the violation of a corpse and six months imprisonment for contravening the Immigration Act.

The court heard that on May 26, 2017, a community member made the grizzly finding when he came across a grave that had been tampered with as he was visiting the graveyard.

The deceased's family was informed and they discovered that the grave had been partially opened and the lid of the coffin moved. The police were called and they discovered the head of the deceased was missing.

"The family had to rebury the deceased with the head missing," said NPA regional spokesperson Phaladi Shuping.

"The investigation led the police to the house of Mokhethi, a well-known sangoma in Clocolan and they dug out the head in front of the door of his house. The tongue was cut off. It was found in a plastic bag cut in three pieces. The family had to bury the deceased for a third time," he added.

Mokhethi, who is a Lesotho citizen, did not have proper documentation to be in South Africa.

"In his plea agreement, he stated that he went to the graveyard on 26 May 2017, identified a grave which he dug up, opened the coffin and cut off the head. He put the head inside the plastic bag and took it home with the purpose of using it for his business to flourish," explained Shuping who speaks for the NPA in the Free State



Deceased buried three times . . . NPA regional spokesperson Phaladi Shuping

and the Northern Cape.

Mokhethi told court that upon arriving at home, he cut off the tongue from the head with the sole intent of using it for medical purposes.

Arguing in aggravation of sentence, state prosecutor Joyce Mokoena presented a victim impact statement facilitated by Tshepang Moeti in which the niece of the deceased stated that the incident had traumatised the family because they had to bury his uncle three times.

It was further stated that the family had to ask for assistance from their local municipality to bury the deceased as they could not afford to bury him for a second and third time.

Mokoena also said the accused did not consider the family when he dug up the grave

because he cut off the head for his benefit and the tongue for medical purposes.

"The court must not consider only the family but the whole community because this incident brings fear that it could happen to any family. He did not only traumatise the family but he also tainted the dignity of traditional healers," said Mokoena.

In sentencing Mokhethi, magistrate Jacobs said the court had to consider all the possible options but came to a decision that the only appropriate sentence was direct imprisonment.

Mokhethi will effectively spend five years in jail after the magistrate ordered the six-month sentence to run concurrently with 12 months for violation of the grave.



VACANCY

The University of the Free State is a richly diverse, multilingual institution committed to the highest academic standards and human reconciliation. We place high value on research that improves the human condition and on teaching that prepares the next generation of world leaders. The UFS seeks to recruit the best students for higher learning as well as outstanding scholars conducting cutting-edge research in their fields.

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

CHIEF OFFICER: FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(Post level 8)

(Job ID: 2393)

CLOSING DATE: 13 JULY 2018

The University reserves the right not to fill the post. The University subscribes to and applies the principles prescribed by the Employment Equity Act. Preference will be given to candidates from the designated groups, in accordance with the principles of the aforementioned Act and the employee profile of the specific department or division.

For more information on the vacancies, please visit our website at www.ufs.ac.za/vacancies

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Human Communications 142184

MANTSOPA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

(Incorporating: Ladybrand, Tweespruit, Excelsior, Hobhouse & Thaba Patchoa)



BID NOTICE AND INVITATION TO BID

Request for bids: Proposals from Qualified and Reputable Service Providers to Assist Municipality with Billing Data Verification

Bid Number: MLM 03/18/19
Closing Date: 03 August 2018 @ 12 h00
Compulsory Briefing Session:
Date: 13 July 2018
Venue: Manyatseng Council Chamber
Time: 10h00

Bidders are hereby invited to send their proposal to the Municipality for billing data verification where they will be expected to perform the following functions:

Door to door visit to all towns of the Mantsopa Local Municipality :

- To verify the following:
- Whether the households or businesses have municipal account;
- Whether there is a water meter and it is functional.
- Personal details of the owners are correct and accurate
- Indigent Status of the household

Only bidders who meet minimum requirements and obtain functionality score of 70% or more will be considered.

NB: Successful bidder must employ or utilise Local Unemployed Youth for the above mentioned work.

A non-refundable Bid document deposit of R500-00 payable. Proof of payment or cash is required on collection bid document. Documents will be obtainable from 06 July 2018 during working hours (Mon – Fri, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm)

Deposits to:

Account Holder: Mantsopa Local Municipality	Bank Name: ABSA	Branch Code: 632005
Account No.: 202 0000 050	Ref: MLM 03/18/19	

Minimum Requirements

- Valid tax clearance certificate must be attached. (Pin Confirmation Letter)
- In case of the Joint Venture valid and original valid tax clearance certificates of all parties must be attached.
- Certified Copy of Company Registration reflecting names and identity numbers of active shareholding must be attached.
- In case of a JV Certified Copy of Company Registration Certificate reflecting names and identity numbers of active shareholding of all parties must be attached
- Copy of JV agreement (in case of JV) must be attached.
- Municipal Rates and Taxes Clearance Certificate/ Account not older than 90 days or a lease agreement must be attached. Failure to submit Municipal Rates and Taxes Clearance Certificate/ Account or lease agreement will be disqualification.
- In case of a JV Municipal Rates and Taxes Clearance Certificate not older than 90 days or a lease agreement
- of all parties must be attached.
- No bid will be considered from the persons in the Service/ Employment of the State/Government
- Bidder/s who fails to submit an original or certified copy of a B-BBEE Certificate will forfeit B-BBEE points
- The service must be registered on the Central Supplier Database of the National Treasury. Failure to submit CSD Registration Documentation will lead to disqualification.
- The bids will be evaluated in terms of 80/20 Preference Point System as Prescribed in the Preferential Regulations of 2017.
- The successful service provider will be the one who scores the highest points
- Bids must be valid for a minimum period of 90 days

Completed bid must be deposited in the tender box at Municipal Offices, 38 Joubert Street, Ladybrand, 9745, not later than the closing date and time

Enquiries:

Technical:	Supply Chain Management:
Palesa Yangaphi at (051) 924 0654 p.yangaphi@mantsopa.co.za	Khotso Pharoee at (051) 924 0654 supplychain@mantsopa.co.za

T. P. MASEJANE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Physical Address: 36 JOUBERT STREET, LADYBRAND, FREE STATE

'Dead' woman found alive in mortuary fridge

Gauteng's Department of Health is investigating an incident in which a woman was found alive in a mortuary fridge in Carletonville - hours after paramedics declared that she was dead.

The woman was certified dead at the scene of a pile-up outside Carletonville, west of Johannesburg, in the early hours of Sunday.

The woman's car rolled and all three occupants were flung from the vehicle. Two were killed.

Gauteng Forensic Pathology Services CEO Dr Paul Morule said on Tuesday that police called them to collect the dead bodies at the scene of the crash.

Morule added that a private emergency service declared the people dead.

"As per procedure, forensic officers collected the bodies for storage and further investigations to determine the cause of the death by [a] pathologist."

Morule said a forensic officer later found her alive in a morgue fridge several hours after the crash.

He said the forensic officer "promptly summoned help" and was able to transport the woman to the nearest hospital.

On Monday, ambulance service Distress Alert confirmed that they had certified the woman dead.

Distress Alert operations manager Gerrit Bradnick noted that they followed their procedures.

"All the right checks were done - breathing, pulse - so the patient was declared deceased," he said.

"The crew is absolutely devastated. We're not in the business of declaring living people dead, we're in the business of keeping people alive," Bradnick added.

The matter has been referred to the Health Professions Council of South Africa.

The department has been in contact with the woman's family.

Netwerk24 reported that she was still in critical condition in a Gauteng government hospital and that her family had been informed. -News24

Free State Department of Education encourages all teachers to enter for the National and the Provincial Teaching Awards. Nominations are open from 11 June to 31 July. Download the information guide from www.edu.gov.za or collect it at your school or district office.



OBJECTIVE:

Focus public attention on the positive aspects of Basic Education, thereby raising the public image of the teaching profession;
Recognize and promote excellence in teaching performance;
Honour dedicated, creative and effective teachers.
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Afford South Africans the opportunity to publicly say thank you to all outstanding teams or individual teachers in schools.

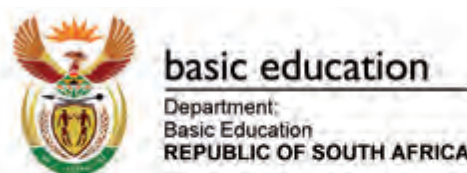
CATEGORIES:

National Teaching Awards
Excellence in Grade R Teaching

Excellence in Primary School Teaching
Excellence in Secondary School Teaching
Excellence in Special Needs Teaching
Excellence in Teaching Mathematics (FET)
Excellence in Teaching Physical Sciences (FET)
Excellence in Technology Enhanced Teaching and Learning
Excellence in Primary School Leadership
Excellence in Secondary School Leadership
Lifetime Achievement Award
Provincial Teaching Awards
Excellence in Teaching Mathematics (Primary Schools)
Excellence in Teaching Natural Sciences (Grade 7)
MEC's Special Award: Excellence in Teaching English in Primary Schools that converted to English as LOLT

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT DISTRICT OFFICES AT:

DISTRICT	COORDINATOR	CONTACT DETAILS	E-MAIL
Thabo Mofutsanyana	Ms Lydia Mokoena	073 165 1874	Lydia@fseducation.gov.za
	Ms. L. Mohatlane	058 303 2452 060 308 3096	mazwaneml@gmail.com
Lejweleputswa	Ms. P. Senatla	0820225859	pdsenatla@gmail.com
Fezile Dabi	Ms D. Potsane	0827859318	D.Potsane@fseducation.gov.za
Motho	Ms. D. Seipobi	083 999 7895	D.Seipobi@fseducation.gov.za
	Mr. M Maliehe	083 369 2388	mathe.maliehe@gmail.com
Khariep	Mrs V.N. Mokhatla	072 417 2557	N.Mokhatla@fseducation.gov.za



www.fs.gov.za

Ntombela calls for protection of children

By: Martin Makoni

Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela has called on communities to look after children and ensure they were protected from all forms of danger because they are vulnerable to abuse and life threatening dangers.

Ntombela said it's worrying that some adults, who are supposed to be protecting the children, are taking advantage of the trust invested in them by society and abuse or even kill some of them.

The premier said this during a sod turning ceremony for a new building at the Thusong Day Care Centre in Mokwallo Township, Vredefort. The centre looks after orphaned and vulnerable children in the area.

"I want SASSA (South African Social Security Agency) and the Department of Social Development to do their work, which is to look after the poor," said Ntombela in her address.

The premier noted children faced a host of dangers everyday and it was important for society to be vigilant and take an interest in ensuring everyone was safe. She briefly narrated the story of a girl from Parys who was recently raped and killed by a 49 year-old man.

"There is a girl from Parys who was six years old... She was found by a man while playing in the street. That man took her into his shack and raped her the whole night. Once he was done raping her, he took her to a nearby bush where he strangled her and broke her neck," said the Premier.

The girl's mother was a single parent because the father had left her saying he wanted nothing



Getting the work started... Social Development MEC Butana Komphele, Free State Social Development HOD, Mme Mokone Nthongoa, CCBA Managing Director Velaphi Ratshefola, Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela and Ngwathe Municipality Executive Mayor Joey Mochela

to do with the child.

"The girl was taken care of by the mother alone, and expected the man who raped and killed her to be the one protecting her as he was part of the community. As we are speaking, the young girl is at the mortuary," she added.

The Premier commended the founder of the centre, Mme Maria Mopeli and Coca-Cola

Beverages South Africa (CCBSA) Managing Director for the central region Velaphi Ratshefola for assisting in expanding the project saying it will save many lives.

"Ntate Velaphi, this house you are building will protect children... and I want to tell you from the bottom of my heart that by doing this, it will open doors of blessings. I asked some of the

children here and most of them have no parents, others were abandoned," said Ntombela.

Thusong Orphanage Home was established on May 25, 2005. The centre initially assisted children with their homework but it has since evolved and it now caters for about 150 children between the ages of six and 19 years. The children participate in extra mural activities such as

singing and indigenous games.

The centre is run by seven women who prepare daily meals for the children, teach them about personal hygiene as well as assist them with their school work.

The centre is very close to the heart of Ratshefola who in 2010 initiated the "donate a brick" project within CCBSA, where employees donated funds to help construct the building. This led to the birth of the annual CCBSA MD's Annual Charity Golf Day where internal and external stakeholders are invited to help raise funds for the centre.

To date employees have raised a total of R1.2 million through internal fund raising initiatives. In addition CCBSA employees that go above and beyond their call of duty known as Soul Ambassadors continue to contribute toiletries and donations through their community initiatives.

In May 2018 Ngwathe Local Municipality donated a piece of land to the centre to allow for the expansion. The Department of Social Development will offer guidance through their social services professionals on the children's wellbeing at the centre.

Ratshefola praised the founder of the centre for her perseverance in looking after the children and noted that the aim is for the children to move into the new building by December.

"I pledge ongoing support from CCBSA and Velarose towards the work done at the centre. CCBSA will continue with motivational talks by employees and opportunities to gain educational bursaries in the future," said Ratshefola.

SMME's receive cash injections

By: Thina Tuwane

The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Developmental Affairs (Destea) in the Free State has intensified its support for SMME's in a bid to boost the agro-processing industry in the province.

Agro-processing, which has been identified by government as an important industry to promote economic growth and job creation, refers to the process through which raw agricultural products are transformed into products that can be used by consumers, such as wheat processed into flour or wool into wearable clothing.

Working with the Central University of Technology in the Free State, Destea has developed a programme for aspiring agro-processing enterprises to present their business plans in front of a panel of experts in different fields. The best pitch then receives a cash injection to sustain their business and create employment.

Twelve entrepreneurs went head to head for the top three spots in the highly competitive funding programme, where the contestants would have to showcase they had an effective business plan, demonstrate the sustainability of the business and prioritize employment of youth and women.

The overall winner who walked away with R450 000 worth of equipment, Teboho Ditsebe, owns Botebo Wines operating in Jacobsdal, followed by AgroSolution that came second and received R350 000. In third place was Timeless Tomatoes that got R200 000, while a special youth award went to Amity Development Solutions and pocketed R100 000.

According to Ditsebe the strides made by Destea in ensuring that radical economic transformation becomes a reality in the province are evident.

"Destea is making sure that radical economic transformation becomes a reality and that women and black people in particular play a major role in the previously white dominated sectors of economy," he said last week after receiving his prize.

The programme is extremely beneficial as it also encompasses post-harvest activities, comprising of artisanal, minimally processed and packaged agricultural raw materials.

It unlocks opportunities for farming enterprises to enhance agro-processing in the province, and creates a platform where stakeholders and enterprises involved can interact.

The department urges local communities to take advantage of other initiatives such as Tabalaza, Cooperatives and Incubator support programmes that it runs.

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FREE STATE GAMBLING, LIQUOR AND TOURISM AUTHORITY

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS BID No: 01/2018/2019

BID DESCRIPTION: Appointment of Accredited Training Service Provider to manage the Implementation of the Tourism Safety Monitors Programme in the Free State Province for a period of twelve months (12)

1. BACKGROUND

The Tourism Safety Monitors project is an experiential Tourism related training programme targeting the unemployed youth of South Africa as part of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) of the National Department of Tourism (NDT). The programme covers classroom and workplace training leading to the attainment of an accredited full qualification. Learners will be placed in Tourism attraction sites for experiential learning.

2. CONDITIONS OF BID

The bid document that details the requirements for the programme and special conditions will be made available. Interested tenderers/bidders can obtain detailed specifications and requirements from FSGLTA offices as from Monday, 29th of June 2018 between 08h00 and 16h30 from Monday to Friday.

Briefing session will be held on 10th of July 2018, 10:00 at the FSGLTA offices, 111 Zastron Street, Westdene, Bloemfontein, 9301.

Closing date: All RFP responses to be submitted on or before 19th of July 2018 at 11:00 to The Chief Executive Officer, FSGLTA, 111 Zastron Street, Westdene, Bloemfontein, 9301. No late proposals will be accepted.

Enquiries on SCM:

Name: Mr K Moreeng
Email address: moreengk@fsglta.gov.za
Tel: 051 404 0300/0325

Enquiries on the Technical

Name: Mr T Lerumo
Email address: lerumot@fsglta.gov.za
Tel: 051 404 0300/0311

Bids documents will be sold for R 427.00 per copy which must be deposited in the FSGLTA bank account:

Name: Free State Gambling, Liquor and Tourism Authority
Corporate Account
Bank: Standard Bank
Branch Code: 055534
Account Number: 040723534
Ref: Bid 01/2018/2019



Engaging the grassroots . . . ANC Free State provincial spokesman Thabo Meeko

Thuma Mina fever hits FS

By: Ramosidi Matekane

The ANC in the Free State will this week undertake a massive 'Thuma Mina' campaign across main centres in the province in yet another concerted effort to revive the former liberation movement's links with people on the ground.

The programme is the brainchild of ANC President Cyril Ramaphosa and is aimed at returning the party's revolutionary character as the champion of the poorest of the poor

The Free State campaign will be also attended by national executive committee (NEC) members; David Mahlobo, Siyabonga Cwele, Lindiwe Zulu, Pinky Kekana as well as provincial leaders of the movement comprising provincial chairman Sam Mashinini and his deputy, William Bulwane.

The entire provincial executive committee members are expected to heed this call as well as regional and branch leaders of the ANC.

ANC Free State provincial spokesman Thabo Meeko said the interactions with members of the community will run for three days starting today (Fri).

"We will be in every locality, corner, town and street reconnecting with our people. We have realised that the only way to defend the

revolution is by servicing our people," said Meeko.

He added: "The ANC in the province has opted to have an intensive programme of Thuma Mina for three days until Sunday. You must remember that Thuma Mina means nothing else but that the ANC is focusing on our people; it is an expression of focus and action in ensuring we respond directly to issues of service delivery challenges."

The province-wide 'Thuma Mina' blitz seeks to inculcate a sense of accountability on ANC structures to be proactive in handling issues of service delivery which impact negatively on the ruling party, by directing municipalities and responsible entities to take corrective action.

Meeko noted: "We will be having members of parliament as well as provincial leaders going to the ground and interacting with the people. The majority of issues that we expect to address came up from our previous engagements with our people through Imbizo and door to door campaigns."

He added the ANC head office, Luthuli House, has also been requested to send a high ranking ANC member to observe the proceedings of the campaign.

Meanwhile, said Meeko the ANC in the

province has taken a decision to suspend all the 14 ANC councillors serving in the Maluti-a-Phofung local municipality from activities of the movement pending outcomes of a disciplinary hearing expected to take a month.

The councillors will continue doing their administrative municipal work but will not be allowed to be part of the ANC caucus meetings.

"You must remember that as the ANC we took a decision to babysit Maluti-a-Phofung so that we attain everlasting solutions to issues of service delivery.

"We are of the view that the regional executive of the organisation has collapsed in the area ahead of the upcoming regional conference because of leadership contests, resulting in poor services," said Meeko.

He pointed out the suspended councillors had contradicted the organisational discipline of the ANC in that they defied the service delivery prerogatives as set out in the ruling party's election manifesto.

"It is our belief that service delivery in provinces and councils happens at the backdrop of an ANC election manifesto, wherein the ANC gives instruction on leadership or issues of service delivery, any defiance constitutes a transgression."

VACANCIES



Letlaka Media, publisher of the Free State's leading provincial newspaper *The Weekly* and other titles, is eager to recruit the services of the following key professional:

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- Work with Regional Editors and reporters to develop story ideas
- Maintain productive working relationships with writers, designers, and Regional Editors
- Planning coverage for news and features sections, an agenda-setting mix of scoops, forward-looking analysis and investigations
- Coordinating the work of Deputy Editors, reporters, sub-editors and designers
- Ensuring that all newsroom operations meet deadlines
- Mentor and guide writers and editors, helping them expand their skill sets and hone their professional abilities.
- Approves/disapproves newspaper content in line with the company's editorial policy
- Resolve staff conflicts
- Reply to community criticism and ensure that public criticism/opinions are considered
- Approve final version of headlines after considering the implications and legality
- Ensure that the editorial, advertising, circulation, and administration departments functions effectively

Qualifications and Experience

- A Bachelor's Degree/National Diploma in Journalism or Mass Communication
- Minimum 10 years' experience as Editor

Skills

- Superb communication skills
- Ability to work without supervision and cope with multiple tasks
- Excellent editing and subbing skills
- Computer literacy and outstanding newspaper designing skills,
- Planning, organisational and staff management skills.
- A good command of English with strong writing and IT skills.
- Financial skills.
- An eye for detail.
- Understanding of target audiences.
- Negotiating and decision-making skills.
- Leading production department in maintaining high design and layout standards
- Profound experience editing articles and meeting publication deadlines
- Substantial ability to write and edit articles/editorial comments on various topics
- Excellent newspaper design and layout skills

Send applications & CV to:

The Finance Manager
The Weekly
8 Genius Locci
CP Hoogenhout & Maretha Maatens Street
Langenhoven Park
Bloemfontein
9300

Email: finance@letlaka.co.za
Deadline for applications: **July 20, 2018**
Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Business innovation awards launched

By: Martin Makoni

The Da Vinci tt100 Business Innovation Awards 2018 were officially launched in Bloemfontein last Friday at the Central University of Technology.

Described as South Africa's foremost business awards, the programme is aimed at identifying true managerial leaders, who through innovation, tenacity and belief in people, have been able to take their organisations to new levels of competitiveness.

TT100 office manager Sonya Landman said in a statement the programme seeks to identify role models within the management of innovation and technology domains who have demonstrated their excellence in co-creating new workplace realities.

"TT100 is about recognising that anyone can build and manage an innovation capability, whatever sector you are in and however big or small you are," said Landman.

She explained TT100 participants receive intensive, customised feedback on how they manage their organisation, enabling them to improve the way they operate.

"The TT100 programme is an effective vehicle for achieving growth and innovation advancement in South Africa and Africa at large. It raises awareness of the critical need for all organisations to embrace the management of technology, innovation and people in a systemic and sustainable manner. This collaborative partnership will advance that," she added.

The categories for the awards include: The

TT100 award for excellence in the Management of Technology; the TT100 award for excellence in the Management of Innovation; the TT100 award for excellence in the Management of People; the TT100 award for excellence in the Management of Systems; the TT100 award for Sustainability; the Department of Science and Technology Director General award for Overall Excellence – Emerging and Small Enterprises; the Science and Technology Minister's Award for Overall Excellence – Medium and Large Enterprises

The awards which recognise innovation and technological prowess have been running for more than 25 years.

Those interested can visit their website: www.tt100.co.za or call 011 579 4445.

'Honour Madiba with your time, money'

As former president Nelson Mandela's 100th birthday approaches on July 18, Cabinet has urged South Africans to honour the globally-revered statesman by choosing to purchase local goods and services.

The government declared July Mandela Month, set aside to remember South Africa's first democratically-elected president and a lawyer turned freedom fighter, who was arrested and imprisoned for 27 years before becoming president.

The South African Reserve Bank is to commemorate Mandela's 100th birthday by issuing a new set of banknotes and R5 coins which feature images of the statesmen. He died in 2013 at the age of 95 after battling a lung infection for months at a Pretoria hospital.

Mandela's face has been a prominent feature on the bank notes since 2012. However, the latest notes are expected to include images of him in traditional Xhosa attire, pertinent locations and images of monuments erected in his honour.

The United Nations has for years marked the occasion of Mandela's birthday the 67 minutes initiative, where South Africans are urged to devote 67 minutes of the day to serving mankind or social benefit.

However, with the need to transform the economy enjoying a great deal of prominence in the public discourse, Minister of Communications Nomvula Mokonyane said Cabinet urged South Africans to honour Mandela by buying locally-



Forever remembered. . . Late President Nelson Mandela

made goods and supporting local business.

"On Friday, a special tribute to his concerns about jobs and young workers will be paid, when the Wear South Africa initiative with the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the SA Clothing and Textile Workers Union launches the Nelson

Mandela T-shirt in Durban," said Mokonyane.

The shirt was locally produced and would be available at various retail stores. The minister said profits from the sale of the T-shirt would go towards the Foundation to fund "activities consistent with his vision and life". -News24

Mangaung migrates to improved library system

By: Ramosidi Matekane

The Mangaung Metro Municipality has made a passionate plea to members of the public using their library services to return the books they borrowed to allow for their capturing into a new, improved online system.

The metro's Library and Information Services Division said it will soon move its online system from the conventional system known as Integrated Library System to the Prolib Library System, which is much quicker and more user-friendly.

The metro said in a communiqué the system will give library patrons immediate access to electronic e-resources.

"With the current system, patrons had to wait until a lengthy process unfolded before they could gain access to our electronic library. In the

process of migrating onto the new system, all books belonging to the nine municipal libraries have to be recorded," it noted.

At present the municipality's libraries have in total issued out 14 999 books to members of the public, while 1381 of these have passed their return date by 12 months.

The metro said the books have to be returned to ensure a smooth transition to the new system, urging users to use any nearest branch libraries to ensure they are recorded.

There will be no penalties on users who return books late and no one will be blacklisted or blocked from continuing to use services.

The closing date for the return of the books is Friday, July 20.

The metro said the primary purpose of the nine branch libraries spread across Mangaung is to provide access to knowledge, information

and literary works through a range of resources and services.

"Libraries have an important role in the development and maintenance of a democratic society by giving individuals access to a wide and varied range of knowledge, ideas and opinions," said the metro's statement.

It added libraries support individual and self-conducted education as well as formal education at all levels with the aim of creating and strengthening reading habits in children from an early age.

It is imperative on libraries to have a dynamic collection of resources that meet the needs of the community, the municipality added, further encouraging members of the public to borrow library resources and to take pleasure from the wealth of knowledge and information they offered.

Lions devour three suspected poachers

At least three suspected poachers who were apparently hunting for rhinos have been mauled to death and eaten by lions at a game reserve in the Eastern Cape, the owner said yesterday.

The men entered the Sibuya Game Reserve on the southeast coast armed with a high-powered rifle and an axe in the early hours of Monday and were found dismembered the following day.

"They strayed into a pride of lions – it's a big pride so they didn't have too much time," reserve owner Nick Fox, 60, told AFP.

"We're not sure how many there were – there's not much left of them. There seems to be clothing for three people. I've not heard of it before in our area," he noted.

Police forensics officers were on the scene conducting tests on the remains of the victims, Fox added.

"We went in yesterday – I got our vet to dart [anaesthetise] all the lions," he said.

He added: "I think we had a stroke of luck here that the lions got to them before they got to the rhinos. We lost three rhino in March 2016."

Fewer than 25 000 rhinos remain in the wild in Africa due to a surge in poaching.

Rhinos are targeted to feed booming demand for rhino horn in China, Vietnam and other Asian countries, where it is believed to have medicinal qualities.

Fox said that the reserve was still open to guests despite the incident.

"It's still business as usual, it doesn't change anything we do," he said.

"The comments on our Facebook are all talking about karma and warnings."
–News24

Unions pour hearts out to Ntombela over challenges



Pointing out challenges . . . Union members address Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela during a meeting

By: Ramosidi Matekane

Trade unions representing male government workers from all levels of employment have poured their hearts out to Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela on the work-floor challenges they face in the line of duty, including lack of implementation of bargaining chamber awards.

The workers also cried foul over alleged tendencies of overlooking the disabled for appointment and promotion in government.

They also alleged nepotism and rampant witch-hunts where vague and trumped up misconduct charges are levelled against 'undesirables'.

Representatives from the Public Servants Association (PSA), National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) and the Police and Prisons Union (Popcru) attended an Imbizo in Mangaung during the week called by the Premier to afford them an opportunity to air their concerns.

Also present was the Democratic Nurses' Union (Denosa), which was the first to fire the salvo. The organisation's regional leader Lebutsa Mokhele told the Premier that implementing government's 50-50 gender representation policy among its workforce was giving rise to challenges in other sectors. This was with specific reference to the health sector which Mokhele said was still predominantly female dominated.

The regional leader said the uneven representation of gender parities in the health sector had led to a situation where some cultural African men feel humiliated at being attended to by female nurses and of being made to wear dress like hospital pyjamas instead of legged ones.

"The issue of 50/50 is very tricky honourable Premier. Though we acknowledge the need to strike a balance, nursing has been the domain of women and even senior management level positions are occupied by women, because it is women promoting women," noted Mokhele.

He said some men have served in this sector work for years on end without 'progression', while their skill is only used by women supervising

them to move forward.

PSA's Nelson Mathea said as public servants they are faced with the daunting challenge of nepotism at the workplace, accusing officials of hiring their friends and relatives at the expense of qualified and experienced employees.

Mathea, who worked for the co-operative governance and traditional affairs department before being employed by the union as a full time co-ordinator in the province, said lack of grievance procedures and victimisation of whistle-blowers led to many wrongdoings going undetected.

"We are 20 years into democracy but workers in the public service are still afraid of speaking out because they fear victimisation and losing their jobs," he pointed out.

He further said government has in its employment labour experts who are not used in mediation and arbitration matters concerning workers. Instead, government outsources the services to expensive outside consultants.

Government also continues to lose workers who got training through the taxpayers' money to the private sector because most feel their career growth prospects are dim, Mathea added.

Popcru leader Phiko Motwana pointed the Premier to the psychiatric wards in hospitals across the province, which he said now resembles police stations "with the high intake of men and women in blue due to severe working conditions".

He said the department's Employee Wellness Programme was not being used for what it is intended for, also decrying the confusion and lack of understanding between cases of misconduct and incapacity.

"This department is unique in that you come in and when you go out you would have been promoted only once. If you get promoted twice then you are very lucky. We plead with our government to look into this matter."

In response, Ntombela said she had given directive to members of her provincial cabinet to attend to all the issues

concern raised by the unions.

She said her administration wants to have a government that works better and one way of ensuring this happens is to attend to challenges faced by workers in the execution of their duties.



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, ROADS AND TRANSPORT FREESTATE PROVINCE

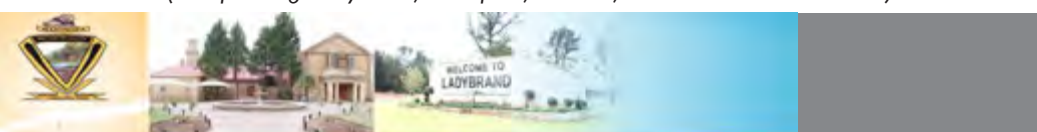
THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, ROADS AND TRANSPORT (FLEET MANAGEMENT) HEREBY ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS:

REFERENCE NO	DESCRIPTION	SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS	AMOUNT
FMB-002 2017/2018	Appointment of an SMME Service Provider to Purchase and Supply Eight (8) Power Packs for Paving Breakers	BIT Consulting & Distribution	R1 261 070.00
FMB - 005 2017/2018	Appointment of an SMME Service Provider to Supply and Deliver 4 (Four) Tractors	Letlalo General Trading	R3 888 000.00

www.fs.gov.za

MANTSOPA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

(Incorporating: Ladybrand, Tweespruit, Excelsior, Hobhouse & Thaba Patchoa)



REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS ON THE CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE

In terms of regulation 14(1) of the Municipal Supply Chain Management Regulations, the accounting officer must keep a list of accredited prospective providers of goods and services and infrastructure procurement requirements of the municipality or municipal entity that must be used for the procurement requirement through written or verbal quotations and formal written price quotations and at least once a year through newspapers commonly circulating locally, website of the municipality or municipal entity and any other appropriate ways, to invite prospective providers of goods and services and infrastructure to apply for evaluation and listing as accredited prospective providers.

In line with this regulation and supply chain management reforms introduced by government, all prospective service providers of goods and services and infrastructure procurement are required to apply on **Central Supplier Database** in order to do business with all organs of state in the Republic of South Africa at <https://secured.csd.gov.za/>

The municipality further invites all prospective service providers within the jurisdiction of the Mantsopa Local Municipality who do not have the capacity to register on the Central Supplier Database to visit the municipal SCM Office at Ladybrand for assistance with registrations. Upon registration on the CSD, your company will be issued with a unique CSD number, which will be used as a reference and must be stated on all quotations and tenders as from 1 July 2016. With effect from 1 July 2016, Mantsopa Local Municipality must use and verify suppliers registration on the CSD.

Failure to register will result in Mantsopa Local Municipality not being able to conduct business with your company/entity.

For more information you can contact Mr. Khotso Pharoo (Manager: Supply Chain Management) on (051) 924 0654 during working hours.

TP MASEJANE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Physical Address: 36 JOUBERT STREET, LADYBRAND, FREE STATE



TENDER: FREE STATE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

AUCTION DATE: 10 JULY 2018 @ 08:00 - (GMT / BFN)

AUCTION VENUE: CNR OF HARVEY ROAD & RHODES AVE, ORANJESIG, BLOEMFONTEIN

Contact person for Tender list: Me T. Zwane Tel: 051 - 4005 275

Contact person technical enquiries: Mr. J M Kwalepe Tel: 051 - 4005219

CONDITIONS OF SALE:

Viewing one day prior to sale (09:00 to 14:00). Reserve prices are applicable.

Items to be sold can be added or withdrawn without prior notice.

Registration will be from 8:00 - 10:45

NO registration deposit required. FICA documents, Copy of ID & Proof of Residence Required
Successful bids will be announced on the same day at the venue

Terms:

NB* ALL VEHICLES CAN BE SOLD TO SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENS ONLY !!!

Documentation required for registration: Valid ID, Business Registration Number and Traffic Registration Number. Right of admission is reserved.

Successful buyers must remove items within 3 working days from auction date (see above) (at own risk and cost)

Payment: Either bank cheque or bank guaranteed cheque (made out to the (FSPG: FLEET

Payment: Either bank cheque or bank guaranteed cheque (made out to the (FSPG: FLEET MANAGEMENT) or EFT payment, within 7 working days after the tender date. Please note we can only release a vehicle once the full outstanding amount is reflecting in our bank account.



At centre of debate... The statue of Marthinus Theunis Steyn

UFS set to finalise Steyn's statue issue

By: Thina Tuwane

The University of the Free State (UFS) says it hopes to finalise discussions on the future of the statue of Marthinus Theunis Steyn which stands outside the main administration block at the institution.

Steyn was the sixth and last president of the independent Orange Free State from 1896 to 1902.

Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the university Professor Francis Petersen told a media breakfast

last Friday that a task team had been set up to consult with different stakeholders in order to reach an amicable solution.

"My approach is to try and involve everyone. So, I immediately put a task team together," said Petersen.

The task team is led by the university's head of the history department Dr. Chitja Twala.

The statue of Steyn has been at the centre of a protracted debate at the university over the past few years with some people saying it must be removed because Steyn was a white supremacist

who opposed peace unless it guaranteed independence.

Others have however said he was a hero because of his contribution to Bloemfontein, as he was one of the founders of the 'Oranje Meisieskool' in Arboretum, which was founded on the principles that females must be educated, regardless of their background. In those years, the school would become home to many orphans who were unable to access schooling and education.

His heroism has however been discredited by some people who say that he was a hero for white communities and that he pioneered education and empowerment for white females and not all females, particularly blacks.

Twala said the task team is apolitical and has a clear mandate to conduct consultations on the issue, taking into account all viewpoints because those of students alone may not necessarily represent all the views. It was imperative that all suggestions are taken into consideration.

"Other stakeholders have an interest in the statue such as Afrikaner groups, the university community, and the Steyn family should also have a say on the issue," noted Twala.

He further explained that the place where the statue is situated is of historical significance, adding the area is protected and declared a heritage site. This means for any changes to take place, permission has to be granted by government.

Twala said the university has to apply to the Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority in order to get permission when dealing with the Steyn Statue. The National Heritage Resources Act stipulates that no one can temper or deface a statue unless granted permission.

"Some people will come and say can we remove the Steyn statue and replace it with that of Mama Winnie Madikizela-Mandela... that is good, but we need to follow proper procedures to do that and other's may be interested in other historical icons and that is why we must get all opinions," Twala said.

He pointed out that the university had to get a company to do a heritage impact assessment and get inputs and this will serve as a roadmap.

According to Twala, there are three important Rs to consider in this issue, firstly to "reinterpret" which means the statue remains where it is and we make it feature into the values of the university, secondly is the question of "relocating" the statue by moving it to a different area on campus and lastly the option is the total "removal" of the statue.

"The aim is to find the best outcome by handling the issue with sensitivity, it is important to be cognisant of what Steyn stood for and where it should go if it is to be removed," he explained.

UFS Student Representative Council president Asive Dlanjwa has in the past argued that there had been no freedom for black people during the rule of Steyn.

"He was leading as the president and if he believed so much in the freedom of South Africans, then why was there was no freedom for black people in the Free State?" he has been quoted as saying.

He said students had argued that the statue should be removed by May but through continued engagements they were able to contain the situation and agreed there should be more consultations with other stakeholders.

The remains of Steyn are buried at the foot of the statue.

Dead man suspected of theft

By: Neo Ntsele

Police say the body of a man found lying under a tree in Loure Park on Tuesday morning could be that of a person suspected of breaking into a car of one of the men now arrested for his death.

The four men, aged between 26 and 32, had accused him of stealing a car radio speaker. The men were rounded up within hours of allegedly committing the heinous crime.

The fourth suspect was arrested in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

Station commander at Park Road Police Station Brigadier Mahloko Lento, said investigations and tracing units were roped in to initiate the search for the suspects after receiving the call.

He added preliminary investigations indicated that the deceased was killed somewhere and dumped where he was found.

"I would like to applaud my team for their

swift response and the involvement of the community because without their tip-off the suspects would still be unknown, I hope to see the community and the police working together," he said.

The deceased was also believed to have been hit with a heavy object on the head, though an official post-mortem is still to confirm the exact cause of death.

Information so far gathered point to the dead man, who is still to be identified, as having been cornered by his assailants in Turflaagte in Mangaung Township.

The attack followed the theft of a speaker from a motor vehicle from one of the assailant's car.

Park Road police are pleading with anyone who may information about the deceased to contact them on (051) 503 3027.

All four suspects are expected in court soon facing charges of murder.



Giving depositors assurance . . . Reserve Bank governor Lesetja Kganyago

SARB secures guarantee for VBS depositors

South Africa's central bank said it had secured a guarantee from National Treasury for retail depositors with failed VBS Mutual Bank for up to R100 000 per depositor.

The South African Reserve Bank (Sarb) said it would announce the details on the repayment of retail deposits on July 9. Retail depositors refers to individuals, funeral schemes, burial societies, savings clubs and stokvels.

The Sarb placed VBS under curatorship in March, and its annual financial statements were found to be inaccurate. The Sarb said the possibility of fake deposits had since been uncovered and a forensic probe was under way to check whether any fraud was committed. It said at the time all retail deposits up to the amount of R50 000 per depositor would be guaranteed.

"With the concurrence of the minister of

finance, the guarantee has been increased to R100 000 per retail depositor, in line with the proposals in the discussion paper on the deposit insurance scheme published in May," the central bank said late on Wednesday.

"The curator will continue to collect on loans due to VBS Mutual Bank. Individuals and entities with loans at VBS Mutual Bank are expected to continue to make payments on these loans."

Some 14 municipalities from the North West, Limpopo and Gauteng provinces have owned up to depositing about R1.5 billion in total into VBS as part of a short-term investment.

The department of cooperative governance and traditional affairs has urged them to work on recovery plans to augment possible service delivery disruptions due to budget shortfalls as a result of the loss of investment. -ANA

Cabinet apologises to grant beneficiaries

Cabinet yesterday apologised to social grant beneficiaries who were not able to access their funds this month following the switch to a new payment system.

"Cabinet appreciates that social grants are a lifeline to the most vulnerable members of our society and therefore such inconvenience is very much regrettable. It expressed its sincere apology to all affected beneficiaries," a statement read.

It added that Cabinet had received a briefing on the problems from social security minister Susan Shabangu.

Shabangu has assured Cabinet that the technical glitches were a result of the transition of the payments from an old system to a new South African Social Security Agency/South African Post Office system. Most of the affected beneficiaries have since been paid.

At least 700 000 of the country's roughly 11 million welfare beneficiaries have struggled to access their grants since technical problems arose with the new payment system on Sunday.

The Social Security Agency of South Africa (Sassa) has migrated to a new payment system operated by the South African Post Office and beneficiaries are being issued with new grant access cards, replacing those issued by Cash Paymaster Services and Grindrod Bank.

Cabinet said teams of officials were "working hard to stabilise the systems to prevent a recurrence of such delays in the future".

Sassa has given an undertaking that all problems would be resolved by today (Fri). -ANA



Desperately waiting . . . Nhlanhla Zungu in a wheelchair ready to collect his grant money in Mpumalanga.

Ramaphosa visits Chatsworth

The ANC in KwaZulu Natal has moved to assure community leaders in Chatsworth that President Cyril Ramaphosa will be visiting the area today (Fri) as part of the party's Thuma Mina campaign.

An email sent to community leaders states that the President will visit Chatsworth to listen to the community and their contributions to the solutions that the ANC urgently needs to address the ills facing society.

"The ANC hereby extends an invitation to you and your organisation to form part of this engagement," the party states.

The meeting will take place at the Chatsworth Youth centre.

The Thuma Mina campaign seeks to enlist citizens and volunteerism to address the problems afflicting all communities in the country.

ANC national spokesperson Pule Mabe said the ANC would roll out the campaign in KwaZulu-Natal and North West provinces.

"The programmes scheduled to take place in KZN and North West provinces will be led by the ANC president, Cyril Ramaphosa, and the deputy president, David Mabuza, respectively. The Thuma Mina campaign seeks to resolve

community concerns immediately across the country," Mabe said.

An ANC poster with Ramaphosa's picture on it states that he will be at Groutville sports field, near KwaDukuza, to launch the campaign tomorrow (Sat).

A senior ANC leader in KZN confirmed that Ramaphosa would be in Chatsworth as part of the campaign.

Omi Nair, who represents the Crossmoor Crisis Committee, said she was not sure what was on the agenda and if they would be given a chance to address Ramaphosa.

Nair was recently vocal about land invasions in the area.

"We need to hear what the president says and presents to us. We are going with an open mind, together with a broad range of civic organisations. We will formulate our response after his presentations," she said.

Sam Pillay, spokesperson of Chatsworth Shield, an organisation of leaders of civic, community policing and NGO groups in and around Chatsworth, said they would attend to discuss several issues of concern to their member organisations. - Daily News



Ruled offside . . . Former spokesman Carl Niehaus

ANC bashes Niehaus over apology

The ANC yesterday distanced itself from an apology made by the party's former spokesman Carl Niehaus during a land imbizo called by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini in KwaZulu-Natal.

At the gathering on Wednesday, Niehaus apologised to the monarch on behalf of the ANC, and lashed out at those he said sought to interfere in the management of the Ingonyama Trust.

"Carl Niehaus has got no such mandate. He is an MKMVA [Mkhonto weSizwe] spokesperson. The ANC will speak for itself. The ANC did not mandate him to go and speak on its behalf and go and apologise.

"This thing of people speaking as if they are mandated by the organisation must come to an end," ANC elections head Fikile Mbalula said.

Mbalula was fielding questions ahead of President Cyril Ramaphosa's two-day visit to KwaZulu-Natal for the rollout of the Thuma Mina campaign. The visit comes amid tensions relating to expropriation of land without compensation, particularly as it relates to Ingonyama Trust.

Under current legislation, Zwelithini is the

sole trustee of the Ingonyama Trust.

Mbalula said the party had not taken a position on the matter and was neither for or against the dissolution of the Ingonyama Trust. The imbizo was set to tackle proposals that have been made to either dissolve the Ingonyama Trust or significantly amend its powers.

The matter has been thrust centre stage as South Africa is grappling with possibly amending Section 25 of the Constitution to facilitate land expropriation without compensation.

Mbalula, however, admitted that there was an urgent need for the top leaders of the ANC to meet with the king to dispel the notion that the party was anti-Zulu.

"The ANC has got no view to take any land in the hands of the Zulu nation, the ANC has never formulated a view. We will engage with the king to articulate this and make the position of the ANC very clear. The ANC president will lead that process," he said.

The party further distanced itself from comments made by its former deputy president Galema Motlanthe that traditional leaders are

"village tin-pot dictators".

"The views he expressed are not views of the ANC. Comrade Motlanthe expressed a view in the summit, where he was asked to present his own perspective on land reform, in particular the position they formulated on the Ingonyama Trust. There is no view of the ANC that says we support the high level panel," Mbalula said.

He added that the land summit was not a policy conference of the ANC, but a means through which the party sought to bring various stakeholders to deposit views on what should ultimately guide the party when it took its own position.

"The land summit was addressing the modalities of the implementation of the ANC resolution on land expropriation without compensation and land reform broadly," Mbalula said.

He said the ANC would also meet with traditional leaders through the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa to clarify its stance on land under traditional leadership.

-*Timeslive*

DA's premiership contest at its hottest in Gauteng

Gauteng is the DA's most contested province, as nine candidates vie to become the face of the party's 2019 ambitions of installing a DA premier in SA's economic heart.

The party has identified Gauteng and the Northern Cape as strategic provinces in which it wants to grow its support and govern with DA premiers after the national elections, in addition to maintaining the Western Cape and growing its majority in its electoral stronghold.

Applications for the premier positions in the nine provinces closed on Friday. The names of hopefuls who threw their names into the hat were released on Sunday by federal executive chairman James Selfe.

The premiership candidatures, for which 31 applications for all nine provinces were received, will now be selected by panels comprising members of the federal executive and the provincial executives.

The name of Tshwane mayor Solly Msimanga was one of the surprises among applications for Gauteng that also included national spokeswoman Refiloe Ntseke. DA MP Ghaleb Cachalia applied for the position, as expected, while Tshwane speaker Rachel Katlego Mathebe is also competing for the coveted candidacy with Wendy Alexander, Sandy Kgaogelo Mbuva, Johannes Page and Karabo Tledima.

A senior DA leader said that despite the long list of candidates for the Gauteng premiership it would effectively be a two-horse race between Msimanga and Makashule Gana, who was first out of the campaigning blocks.

Msimanga, who lost out to Athol Trollip for the DA's chairmanship in April, attended Gana's announcement in the same month in which he officially indicated that he would be standing for the candidacy.

A complication is that Tshwane's mayor and



Election time . . . DA supporters drum up support for their party

speaker - Msimanga and Mathebe, respectively - are contending for the same position.

When approached for comment, Gana said his campaign was proceeding and he had received a lot of support. He said it was free for anyone to stand and that he was "ready for each one of them".

In the Western Cape, the second most

contested province, seven hopefuls have submitted their names to replace Helen Zille, whose two terms in office end after the elections.

Among those seeking the prized office are Western Cape provincial leader Bonginkosi Madikizela, Western Cape economic opportunities MEC Alan Winde and MP David Maynier. -*BusinessDay*

Govt to consult ANC on ICC withdrawal

The ANC says Cabinet will have to consult the party first before reconsidering the decision to withdraw from the International Criminal Court (ICC), head of elections Fikile Mbalula said yesterday.

International Relations Minister Lindiwe Sisulu hinted on Wednesday that the government might reconsider the controversial decision.

Sisulu did not mention former president Jacob Zuma by name, but told journalists that the decision that was taken "under the previous administration".

She said it was back on Cabinet's agenda with a view that South Africa could do more to change the skewed bias against Africa in the International Criminal Court, if it remained a party to the Rome Statute.

Mbalula said the decision to withdraw was an ANC decision. It was later confirmed at the December elective conference in Nasrec, Johannesburg.

"We are not micromanaging government, but we must understand that government can express itself at any given point in time. [However], ministers have the responsibility to ensure that their position resonates with the ANC and is guided and given a mandate by the ANC, as the ruling party that has won the

election," Mbalula said.

The South African government attempted to withdraw from the ICC by informing the United Nations of its intention to do so. But it was forced to abandon the process after a court ruled that such a decision had to go through Parliament.

"The dichotomy of government and the ruling party, and us leading as the ruling party, must always be understood that the ANC is the centre of power," Mbalula said.

"So, the minister is not at fault for what she might have expressed and there are probably cogent reasons why we must stay in the ICC. But we must equally make an evaluation of that going forward and [the] ANC will give guidance. That is what we expect," he said.

South Africa's fallout with the ICC started after a visit by Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir to the country in 2015 to attend the African Union summit.

The government was criticised and taken to court for allowing al-Bashir in the country while he faced an international warrant of arrest for crimes against humanity, and for allowing him to leave once the summit had ended.

South Africa was expected to arrest him as a signatory to the Rome Statute. -*News24*

Mandela Foundation blasts Robben Island sleepover

The Nelson Mandela Foundation has slammed an initiative that attempted to auction a night in Madiba's former cell on Robben Island.

Foundation spokesperson Lunga Nene told TimesLIVE that there was no relation between the organisers of the initiative and the foundation.

"We did not approve anything. We were not involved in the process of coming to that event. So I only know what you know. I read it in the newspapers. I can not comment any further. It is not a project that is affiliated with us at all," said Nene yesterday.

On Wednesday, the SleepOut Movement, which organises the annual CEO SleepOut charity event, seemingly backtracked on its plans to allow a wealthy funder to spend a night in former president Nelson Mandela's prison cell on Robben Island, an experience that would have cost a minimum of \$250,000 - or about R3.4-million!

Details of the "Robben Island Room Bid" were originally published on the organisation's website, which billed it as a "once in a life [sic]

opportunity to sleep in Mandela's personal Cell Number 7".

By Wednesday night the advert had been removed from the SleepOut Movement website. However, by 9.15pm on Wednesday the cover image of their Facebook page still advertised the "Nelson Mandela Legacy SleepOut - Robben Island Edition" to take place on July 18.

The Robben Island Museum has also lashed out at the idea. Spokesperson Morongoa Ramaboa said museum staff were shocked to find out about the auction on the internet, as everyone else did.

"It was a shock. We would like to commend South Africans for calling them out," she said.

"It's completely impossible. You can't auction any cell for that matter. We are a World Heritage Site and accountable to Unesco. It is the heritage of South Africans.

"Why would we do that to ourselves? Our heritage is not some piece of carrot that can be dangled to people who have their own financial interests in mind," said Ramaboa. -*Timeslive*

Cabinet calls for calm during land hearings

Cabinet has appointed a team of ministers to assist in allaying traditional leaders' concerns emerging from the current public hearings into whether section 25 of the Constitution should be amended to allow the state to expropriate land without compensation.

This is according to Communications Minister Nomvula Mokonyane who was briefing reporters in Pretoria on Cabinet's Wednesday meeting.

Parliament kicked off a tour on June 26 that will see MPs hold hearings in all nine provinces until August 4, canvassing the views of South Africans on land.

While the latest land debate that has gripped South Africa has been viewed largely through a racial lens, the potential land reforms which may emerge have people across various sectors of South African society nervous.

Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini addressed a land imbizo in Ulundi, KwaZulu-Natal, on Wednesday, during which he bared his teeth at anyone who he said would try to take land owned by the crown or dissolve the Ingonyama Trust, which is the asset vehicle of the Zulu crown.

Tensions have heightened between members of the ruling party and traditional leaders. ANC national executive committee member and head of its presidency Zizi Kodwa tweeted that the governing party would not allow itself to be bullied by traditional leaders on the land issue.

Mokonyane said the team of ministers would be comprised of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Minister Zweli Mkhize; Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Senzeni Zokwana; Rural Development and Land Reform Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane; and herself.

"We appreciate the start of the process. Parliament has set up a review committee after the National Assembly passed the proposal. These hearings will take place until August and we appeal to the public to remain tolerant and participate in the hearings," said Mokonyane.

Mokonyane said Cabinet reflected on the concerns of traditional leaders regarding issues around land restitution and land expropriation. Minister Mkhize would convene a meeting with Zokwana, Nkoana-Mashabane and herself to address these, she said.

"We hope that in all that is happening around the country we are able to reach a solution where we accept the importance of the land issue, the economy, an inclusive, transformed agricultural sector and changing urban social architecture," said Mokonyane.

She added that Cabinet was confident that traditional leaders and government could discuss a solution to land dispossession, ownership imbalances and a lack of security of tenure which is in the best interests of rural communities.

"The teams will address Contralesa (Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa) and will meet with other parties including the Ingonyama Trust. Government is committed to ensuring that we focus on the dispossession of South Africans where land ownership is concerned," she said.

She urged South Africans not to conflate the current hearings with any actions that the executive takes regarding land, as government will wait until Parliament has compiled all inputs from public hearings before interacting with any evidence MPs have gathered. -*News24*

Corruption fight goes on: Ramaphosa

Government has taken decisive action to end state capture and corruption in key state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and institutions and will continue to do so until the credibility and integrity of all parts of the state have been restored, President Cyril Ramaphosa says.

Since ascending to power earlier in 2018, the president has set his sights on dealing with state capture, which he says has contributed to SA's economic woes, hampering plans to stimulate growth and create jobs.

The anti-corruption thrust has put him on a collision course with his predecessor, Jacob Zuma, and is said by some party members to be at the root of the ANC factional fights.

Zuma's friendship with the Gupta brothers, who got billions in contracts and business from SOEs, is at the centre of state capture allegations.

Responding to a written question in Parliament on Monday from Congress of the People leader Mosiuoa Lekota, Ramaphosa said he was confident that the commission of inquiry into state capture headed by Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo would get to the core of this state capture.

"The work of this commission is critical to ensuring that all instances of state capture are uncovered and that those responsible are identified so that the necessary action can be taken," noted Ramaphosa.

The president has previously stated that tackling corruption, particularly within SOEs,

would be critical in restoring confidence in public institutions.

The commission was critical in ensuring that the extent and nature of state capture was established, said Ramaphosa.

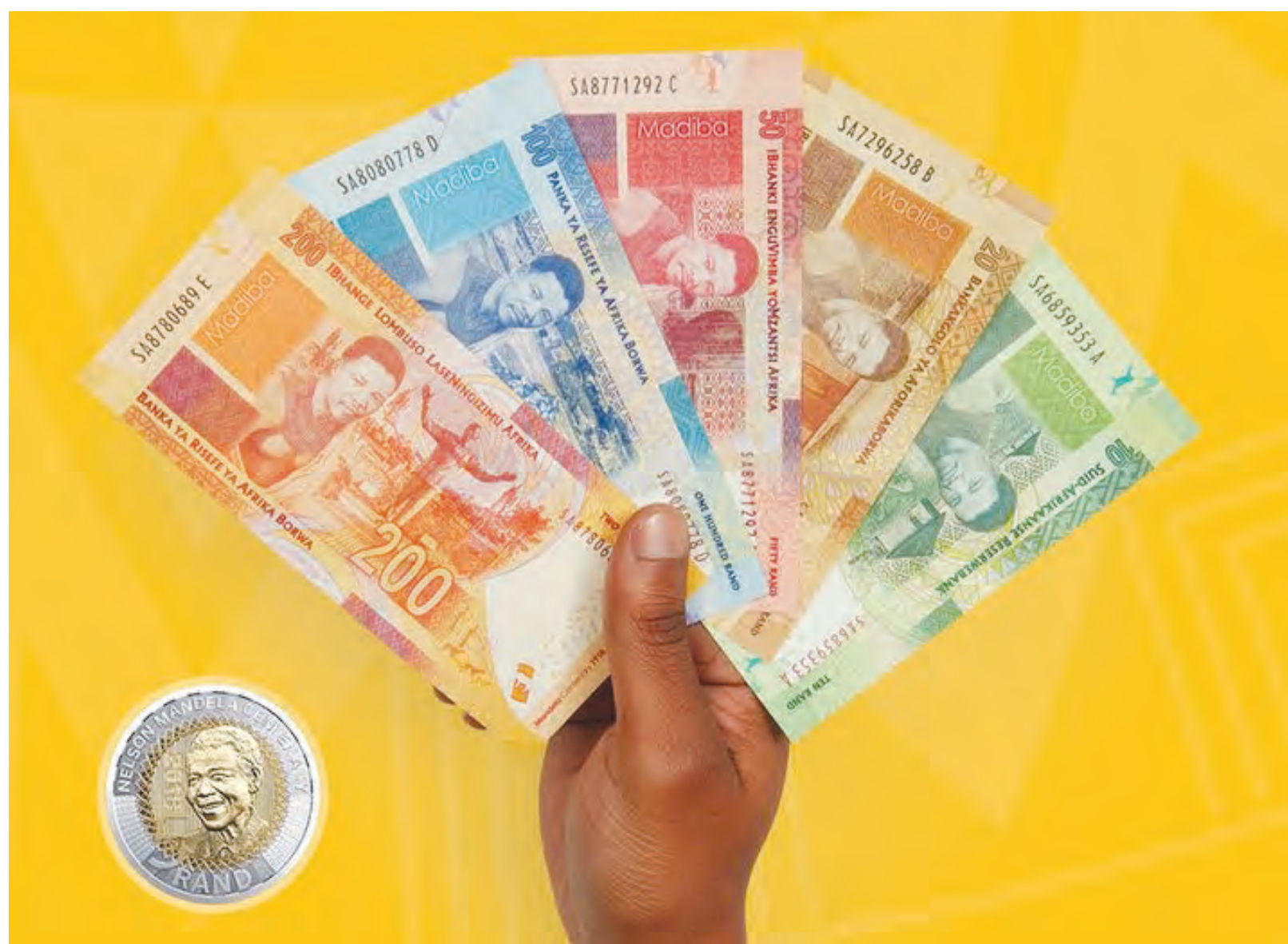
Lekota asked Ramaphosa whether he only became aware of the extent of state capture after the first published reports were released based on leaked Gupta e-mails, "despite the many instances of state capture appearing in the public domain, including the report of the former public protector on 14 October 2016 that transpired prior to the publication of the specified leaked e-mails."

Ramaphosa said allegations of the undue influence of the Gupta family and their associates in SOEs and public institutions, later known as state capture, had surfaced over a period of many years, including in the public protector's State of Capture report of October 2016.

"However, it was not until the details of the so-called Gupta leaks were published from June 2017 onwards that one became aware of the extent, depth and methodology of state capture."

A cache of e-mail correspondence between the Gupta family and its associates, including cabinet ministers, revealed in 2017 how the Guptas influenced state operations.

The e-mails revealed details of how the Guptas scored big government deals and captured state-owned entities. The state-capture allegations precipitated the demise of Zuma. **-BusinessDay**



Honouring Madiba . . . New notes coming

New Mandela banknotes coming in two weeks

New banknotes of the late Nelson Mandela will soon hit the market. This is part of an awareness campaign by the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), launched to honour the centenary of the former president.

Mandela would have turned 100 this year.

The series of banknotes and R5 coins will be in circulation from July 13.

According to the Reserve Bank, every commemorative banknote and R5 coin will depict a unique story of Mandela.

The R10 banknote is inspired by the rolling hills of the Eastern Cape, featuring Mandela's

birthplace, Mvezo, in Mthatha.

The R20 note features Mandela's Soweto home.

The R50 banknote depicts the site where Madiba was captured near Howick, which set the tone for Mandela's life.

The R100 note depicts Mandela's time on Robben Island.

The R200 note depicts the moment Mandela greeted the nation for the first time as a statesman.

The R5 coin shows Mandela smiling.

Governor Lesetja Kganyago said this was a proud moment for the national

bank and the country.

"It is the first time in the history of the SARB that we issue a series of commemorative banknotes, and there is no more fitting occasion than the 100th birthday of Madiba."

The banknotes and R5 coin will be in circulation starting July 13, only from commercial banks. All notes current and new will still coexist.

The notes and coin are the same value as the current banknote or coins currently in circulation. **-Citizen**

Thousands of underage children married

Almost 100 000 underage children in South Africa are married, the Commission for Gender Equality told the Portfolio Committee on Social Development in Parliament on Wednesday.

In some instances, mothers along with uncles or other relatives of the 91 000 underage children had agreed on dowries for children as young as 14 years old, chairperson Lulama Nare said.

Legally, for marriages in which one of the partners is younger than 18, written consent is necessary to obtain a marriage certificate from the Department of Home Affairs.

In one instance, she said, a child ran away from her husband. When he returned from Gauteng, her family took her back to him.

Nare said most child abductions where

children as young as 13 were kidnapped to marry older men occurred during the December holidays.

She said there was also no collaboration between organisations such as the commission and state authorities to deal with child abuse and rape.

Police stations are acting as mediators and social workers when crimes are reported to them, Nare said.

She also highlighted that it was not the role of the authorities to tell a victim to return to their family or call the elders to try and resolve it, as happened in many cases.

Many instances such as these end in death, she said. **-News24**



Increase just unbearable . . . ANC national spokesperson Pule Mabe

ANC calls for freeze on fuel hikes

The ANC has called on government to increase petrol reserves and to consider freezing or decreasing the fuel levy.

ANC national spokesperson Pule Mabe said the petrol was at its highest level ever, "putting a squeeze on all aspects of life of fellow South Africans."

The department of energy announced on Tuesday that the inland price for a litre of 95 unleaded petrol will cost R16.02. The coastal price will be R15.43.

"The rate at which these cost increases are happening is unbearable and we can neither turn

a blind eye nor wish them away. We need to take strong action to arrest this situation," Mabe said.

He noted the rand's depreciation is fuelled largely by US trade wars and crude oil prices.

The ANC has also called on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to help lower fuel prices by increasing oil production.

"We believe there is more that could be done to reignite and accelerate economic growth, and to soften or lessen the effect petrol price increases have on our people and on the economy." **-Fin24**

Sky is the limit for 26-year-old pilot

He was once told to give up on his dream and that flying wasn't for him.

"Be a politician rather," one of his instructors said. "You're more likely to make a go of that."

But Siphon Magesi refused to listen. He carried on fighting to fulfill his dream, and today the 26-year-old is inspiring young would-be pilots to dream big too.

He has his own aviation company, iFly Aviation, and is helping to ignite the love of flying and aircraft in kids who might never have gotten near an airliner if it wasn't for him.

Siphon was once one of them: a poor rural kid from Ngqamakwe in the Eastern Cape who knew nothing about the winged wonders of engineering that transported people across the globe. He remembers the moment he fell in love with flying – he was playing outside and saw an airliner high in the sky.

"I was fascinated," he recalls.

"From then on I would run across the field whenever a plane flew past. My friends and I would tap our mouths with our hands and scream at the plane, sending up wishes to the pilot to bring us goodies when he flies past again."

Siphon was captivated with how aircraft worked.

"I knew a car had a steering wheel to turn the wheels around but I couldn't see wheels on a plane up in the sky."

He made a promise to himself that one day he was going to work with aircraft. He didn't know how, but he would do it. His dream stayed alive all the way through school and after he'd completed matric he applied to join the South African Air Force.

He underwent various tests and passed with flying colours – but his hopes were quickly dashed. Being in the air force didn't automatically qualify you to fly aircraft, he discovered. Siphon learnt only a select few did so after many years in the service.

Before long he'd packed his bags and headed back to East London. Then a friend brought him brochures about aviation careers and it reignited the fire inside of him – one day he would fly!

"I looked for a flying school in East London, applied at Border Aviation and started training

as a pilot," he says. His parents agreed to pay the fees, but they were steep – around R400 000 for a two-year course.

Siphon ended up doing the course over four years because his parents kept running out of funds.

"But I refused to give up."

Siphon thought once he started flying it would come easily to him. But he didn't foresee one main obstacle: airsickness.

Every time he got inside an airliner in his first few months of training he got sick as a dog.

"I would vomit in the plane," he says.

"Things got so bad one of my instructors got irritated with me – both for getting airsick all the time and for taking frequent breaks from training because of my financial challenges.

He gave me advice that maybe I should just stop flying and go and be a politician."

But Siphon wasn't one to be demoralised.

"I sometimes wonder what would've happened to me if I'd listened to my instructor?"

He managed to overcome his airsickness, qualified as a pilot and is now working on getting enough flying experience, logging in hours and polishing his skills.

"I'll then do instrument-rating training for three months."

The determined young pilot registered his company last year with qualified pilot Derrick Nzeko. He now uses the aircraft owned by the company to teach young children from disadvantaged backgrounds all about flying aircraft.

"I started visiting schools in 2011, did motivational talks and became a self-appointed aviation ambassador," he says.

The Eastern Cape transport department came on board as a sponsor, he says, and Siphon's efforts with kids has elevated him to hero status. The kids get to fly in Derrick and Siphon's Piper Cherokee, a four-seater light aircraft, for about 20 minutes.

Siphon can't recall how many kids he's flown with as numbers don't matter to him.

"It's all about the experience. I fly these kids to empower them and give them a great first flying experience while I accumulate my flying hours," he says.

One person who's glad Siphon didn't listen to his instructor is Siyakholwa Zazini, 21, a pilot-in-training who idolises his mentor.

Siyakholwa comes from an RDP settlement not far from the East London airport and has always wanted to be a pilot, but it was too expensive and he didn't know if such dreams come true for people like him. Then he met Siphon.

"I met him when I went looking for local aviation schools and ended up at Border Aviation. Siphon was there and he told me to never give up. He promised he'd pray with me until I had a breakthrough," he says. And it paid off.

Siyakholwa was awarded a bursary from the Eastern Cape premier's office and the department of transport, passed his exams and is now learning to fly.

Siphon is proud – but not as proud as his parents are of him. He'll forever be grateful to them for their sacrifices.

"Any money they had went into flying," he says.

His father, Mthuthuzeli, 55, was between jobs when Siphon was a teenager and for a while his mother, Zimbini Mangesi 50, was the sole provider for the family of five on her teaching salary.

His mom's strength and faith still keep him going.

"Every day at 3am she wakes up and prays for me. When I wake up to go to the bathroom in the wee hours of the morning I hear her praying for me. My dad prays for me too but not as much as my mom."

Zimbini, a primary school teacher in East London, believes it was all worth it. Siphon has lived up to the meaning of his name, she says, and is a gift to many people – including some of their elderly neighbours in Amalinda, East London, whom he checks on every day.

"He'll go to their homes and ask if they need anything from the shops, just to make sure they aren't in need while he's away for the day," she says.

"I'm proud of him and what he is – a pleasure to have as a child," Zimbini beams.

Flying means everything to Siphon and he's glad he didn't give up. Stepping into an aircraft, sitting behind the controls and soaring into the sky gives him a thrill every time.

"I'm home up there in those skies." **-Drum**

C

CONVERSATIONS

BRENDA SAVED MY LIFE: SEPHUMA



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I'M NOT SCARED TO DIE, SAYS YVONNE



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ONE ON ONE WITH MGCINAZWE ZWANE



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Deepest sympathies . . . Police officials console family members of slain officers at a recent police National Day of Commemoration ceremony.

POLICE STRATEGY TO CURB VIOLENT CRIME COULD WORK

South Africa's Police Minister Bheki Cele and National Commissioner Khehla Sitole recently announced a new "high density stabilisation intervention" to tackle crime. The strategy focuses on cash-in-transit heists, car hijackings, murder, house robberies, and gang and taxi violence.

It includes the deployment of desk-based police officials to the streets, particularly in "identified hotspots", while dedicated detectives track and arrest suspects wanted for both organised and repeat violent crimes.

The strategy comes on the back of a multi-year rise in aggravated robbery, and a recent spike in robberies targeting cash-carrying armoured vans. It has already resulted in key arrests, and should thus be celebrated.

But, more than 90% of violent crimes recorded each year fall outside the categories named in the strategy.

To significantly reduce violence and harm in South Africa, the police should expand the strategy in three ways: (1) focus on murder hot spots, (2) tackle domestic violence effectively, and (3) implement targeted and evidence-based interventions.

Tackling murder

First, for the police service to improve public safety most effectively, it should focus a significant amount of its resources on reducing murder. Murder is the most reliable crime statistic and the best proxy for violence more broadly. Where murder is common, so is other violence. Murder and associated types of violence affect far more people, and cause far more harm than car hijackings, house robberies or cash-in-transit heists.

A significant amount of murders in South Africa is predictable, so police should be able to reduce it. For example, in 2015/16, 78% of murders occurred in just four provinces

- KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, Eastern Cape and Western Cape. In the most recent crime statistics, 2% of police stations recorded 20% of all murders in the country, and 13% recorded 50% of murders.

Within these precincts it's almost certain that violence and murder are clustered in hot spots known to local police. Targeting these could significantly reduce murder and other violence.

Many murders are also committed during predictable time periods, specifically over weekends. In 2017 the SAPS reported that most murders (66%) in the Western Cape province occurred from Friday to Sunday, with 56% occurring between 6pm and 3am. Similarly, in 2016 half of murders nationwide occurred on Saturday and Sunday, with 70% taking place between 6pm and 8am.

Murder and violence are also often linked to alcohol. A 2016 analysis of murder dockets found that in up to 48% of murders, the victim or perpetrator was intoxicated.

Based on this information, one can estimate that around a third of all murders in South Africa occur over weekends, in predictable hotspots, in roughly 100 police precincts, in four provinces. If focused police and socio-economic interventions could halve weekend murders in these areas, the national murder count could be reduced by as much as 15% in just a few years and by far more in a decade.

Instead, murder has increased by 22% since 2012. What's more, by focusing on murder, police will almost certainly reduce other violent crime in the same targeted areas, significantly reducing overall harm.

The World Health Organisation and numerous violence experts believe the global murder rate can be halved in 30 years in part by adopting just these kinds

of targeted interventions. South African police can and must be part of this, and wherever possible, should do so in parallel with complimentary interventions by other government departments, business and civil society stakeholders.

Combating domestic violence

The second adjustment to the strategy should be a focus on domestic violence. Although most violence is perpetrated by men against men, addressing violence in the home (and in schools), particularly against women and children, is key to breaking its cycle.

According to the World Health Organisation, witnessing violence in childhood makes one 3.8 times more likely to be a victim of domestic violence later in life, while living in a high crime neighbourhood makes one 5.6 times more likely of the same.

Policing domestic violence is not easy. It occurs behind walls and closed doors, and often requires vulnerable victims to risk additional abuse by seeking police help. Nor is there significant evidence that policing alone effectively reduces domestic violence.

But hundreds if not thousands of people call on the country's police service for such intervention each month, giving the government important opportunities to signal to the public that violence is not tolerated and victims will be supported. To do so, police must appreciate the link between domestic violence and societal violence.

Dedicated police officials should promptly investigate domestic violence reports, especially in murder hot spots, and work with social workers to fast-track interventions, mediations and, if necessary, prosecutions. They must also respond rapidly to any breaches in negotiated agreements or

court orders by abusers.

Targeted interventions

The third adjustment pertains to visible policing. The idea that general "visible policing" will make South Africa safe is appealing but not supported by evidence. Rather, policing is most effective when directed at specific places (hotspots), people (gang members, for example), and crimes (cash in transit heists, street robbery, murder). This is true of both police patrols and investigations.

It's, therefore, promising that the new police strategy focuses on crime hot spots and crime types amenable to police intervention, such as aggravated robbery perpetrated by organised groups. It is important that the police not try to increase visible police in general, or to target general crime equally, everywhere.

Rather, targeted medium and long-term interventions are key. These should be planned and guided by best practice and crime data, and be implemented in a manner that allows rapid adaption and learning based on contextual dynamics. Participating police must work within the rule of law and treat all those they encounter, including suspects, fairly.

Cause for optimism

The police's new strategy is cause for optimism. Its focus on organised and violent crime is rational and necessary but should be fine tuned and expanded. By treating murder and domestic violence as proxies for broader violence, and by deploying resources and focusing efforts to address them using data-guided methods, police could significantly reduce overall violence and harm in South Africa. - *The Conversation*

SA losing R2.2 billion a year to cyber attacks

Every time you use your smartphone, log on to your computer, open an e-mail, in fact almost every time you engage with technology, you're exposed to the risk of cyber crime.

According to the South African Banking Risk Information Centre (SABRIC), South Africa has the third highest number of cyber crime victims worldwide, losing about R2.2 billion a year to cyber attacks.

The cyber threat landscape is vast and no one is immune. And it's not just big businesses who are vulnerable to the growing incidence of cyber attacks. Individuals are regularly targeted too with crimes including:

Identity theft: where criminals obtain information about you to convince a bank or a customer service representative that they're you.

Phishing: where criminals attempt to trick unsuspecting individuals into clicking on a malicious URL or e-mail attachment to steal their login details which they can then use to gain unauthorised access to the victims' financial accounts.

Ransomware: where a hacker encrypts files on your computer. The only way to get the files back is to pay the hijacker in crypto currency, like Bitcoin.

"According to a report from cyber security firm Norton, globally, 978 million consumers were affected by cyber crime in 2017 stealing a total of \$172 billion," says Head of Dialdirect Insurance, Maanda Tshifularo. "The losses were more than just financial - each victim of cyber crime spent, on average, nearly two working days dealing with the aftermath of the attack. The most common crimes were generally low-tech, such as

attempts to trick individuals into revealing their personal information through bogus emails."

To protect yourself against cyber crime, Dialdirect offers the following advice:

Read about cybercrime. The more you know, the more likely you are to spot a con and the less likely you will fall for scams.

Don't use your social media profiles to log in to other accounts.

Use strong passwords, with a variety of upper case and lower case letters, symbols, and numbers. Never write them down where other people can see them. You should also try to change them up every now and then.

Only use reputable online shopping sites. One thing you can do is look at the URL of the website. If it begins with "https" instead of "http" it means the site is secure. Also check with friends if they've

heard of it or used it before.

Be extra cautious when using Wi-Fi hotspots. Some scammers falsify popular hotspots.

Don't click on random links.

Use good quality security software and a firewall on your computer, and update them regularly.

To protect against identity theft, take care not to reveal too much about yourself on social media networks.

Back-up the data on your computer, daily.

Do not respond to random emails claiming that you have won a prize or inherited money.

Keep an eye on your monthly statements to identify unusual/unauthorised transactions or behaviours. - *Cape Argus*



Helping out . . . Zodwa Wabantu

Fans hail Zodwa's charitable deed

Social media has erupted with praise for Zodwa Wabantu after she handed a R10,000 cheque over to a woman with a disabled child, saying her charitable side was underrated.

Ever since Zodwa tracked down and donated the money to the woman, fans have filled social media with compliments and comments accusing the media of only showing Zodwa's "wig snatching" tendencies and "no panty" antics.

Zodwa told TshisaLIVE how amazing it felt for her to help and that the money she forked out felt like a small price to pay for the joy she felt as she handed the cheque over.

"She (Gabisile Mhlongo) cried and she couldn't believe that I had actually showed up. I was happy because I realised just how much I was helping her. I also hope that other people help her too, that money will help but more is needed."

Zodwa explained once again that she was just touched by the mother's story, which she stumbled across on social media and wanted to

help the child however she could.

"I was just so touched by her story and I just wanted to help. I mean, I could have brought groceries but then I thought money would be better for her. It will help her search for the special school for her child and maybe do other things that have been keeping her from giving her child better things. I've waited a long time to be able to help. Her story touched me, I had enough money to help her, so I did."

Zodwa said she was not trying to play "good samaritan" and that she would help when and if she felt touched by certain situations.

She said she didn't even want to make a big deal out of helping Gabi but she felt that other people needed to see so that they could help her too.

"I also feel like I am in a way better financial situation now because both my car and house are not debt, you know? So whenever something touches me like Gabi's story I will help."

Tweeps were super excited.
-Tshisalive

Ms. K Unrestricted

How to keep the fire burning

1. Prioritize your relationship.

Let's be honest — most of us talk a big game about the importance of our marriage or love relationship, but when the rubber meets the road, we aren't really putting the relationship first.

Over time, you begin to take one another for granted. You get busy and distracted with your own stuff and neglect to tune in to the needs and desires of your partner. You view the relationship as a given, something that's just a by-product of your connection to this other person.

But the relationship is an entity on its own. There's you. There's your partner. And there's the relationship. Of these three, the relationship should be in first place. In fact, it should be in first place over everything else in your life, including your children, work, hobbies, or extended family.

2. Create a couple bubble

A couple bubble reinforces the goal of prioritizing your relationship by thinking in terms of "we" rather than "me." This is hard for most couples because it requires viewing yourself as part of a team first, above your independent needs and habits.

But rather than this inter-dependence weakening you, it strengthens you because each person feels safe and cherished. You know you have each other's backs, and you create a space of reassurance and protection that keeps the relationship healthy and strong.

3. Have daily connection time

An important daily goal for your relationship is spending one-on-one time together to reconnect.

If one or both of you work outside of the home, it's especially important to carve out this time without distractions or interruptions (from children or otherwise). Try to do this both in the morning before the workday begins and in the evening before you are pulled away to chores and responsibilities.

4. Communicate with kindness.

Have you ever noticed how couples can speak to each other with such cruelty and unkindness? They say things to each other that they'd never dream of saying to a casual acquaintance or even someone they don't like.

When we feel hurt, angry, or frustrated, it's so easy to lash out and say hurtful things.

Sometimes we employ passive-aggressive words and behaviours, using subtle digs, manipulation, or stonewalling to express how we feel.

Both overt and covert words and behaviours like these are deeply wounding, and over time they accumulate enough to cause serious problems in a relationship. You lose trust, mutual respect, and eventually love.

5. Embrace vulnerability.

Each partner enters a relationship with past baggage, insecurities, feelings of shame or guilt, and tenuous hopes and dreams. We have vulnerabilities that we want to hide from others so they don't think less of us.

As trust and intimacy grow within a relationship, you share some of your vulnerabilities and inner pain with your partner. You expose your soft underbelly in hopes of finding a place of safety and security where you can be yourself completely.

Nothing is more wounding to a relationship than having your vulnerabilities disparaged, disregarded, or worse, thrown back in your face in order to make you feel bad about yourself.

The ability to safely be vulnerable with one another can strengthen the bond between you and foster a deeper love and intimacy than you thought possible.

6. Plan for fun together.

Life is already serious and stressful. Your days are spent working, caring for children, running errands, dealing with problems, and worrying about future problems.

Your relationship should be a place of peace and respite from the tribulations of daily life. In fact, your relationship should provide an outlet for enjoying life to the fullest.

Think back to the time when you first met your spouse or love partner and how much fun you had together. At that early stage of your love, you didn't have to work too hard to have fun. Everything was fun, and you delighted in finding fun things to do together.

As your relationship has matured, you may need to work a bit harder to create fun times together, but it is still possible.

7. Learn and support your love languages.

You and your partner may not have the same love language, and that's why it's so important that you both learn and support each other's love language.

You can do that by observing how your

partner shows love to you and by analyzing what he or she complains about within the relationship.

Once you and your partner are aware of each other's love language, your goal is to offer your partner more of what he or she needs in the relationship.

8. Maintain a satisfying sex life.

No matter how great your sex life was at the beginning of your relationship, it is inevitable that it will grow boring or even burdensome from time to time.

If you are 15 or 20 years into a marriage, maintaining that romantic spark can take real effort and commitment. But a healthy sex life is vital to a healthy relationship.

Maintaining a satisfying sexual relationship involves understanding your partner and their needs related to sex, as well as acknowledging your own needs.

Women need to feel secure and comfortable with their partner in order to be willing to try new things and be sexually adventurous. Men need more visual stimulation and variety than women do.

For women, sex can become a stressor if they see it as yet another chore they have to accomplish. Men see sex as a stress reliever and need this physical connection to feel closeness. The key to bridging these differences in sexual needs is regular communication.

9. Support one another's goals.

As important as it is to create a couple bubble in your relationship, you are two individuals who have goals and dreams of your own.

Having your own goals and dreams don't undermine your connection as a couple. On the contrary, it should enhance your relationship as each partner has something unique and interesting to bring to the relationship.

10. Have a yearly review.

If you and your spouse take the time to set relationship goals and work toward achieving them, then it's important to measure the success of your efforts.

At the end of the year, sit down together to discuss each of the goals you have defined for your relationship.

Brenda saved my life: Sephuma

It is not every day that a successful musician gives credit to someone who gave them their first shot, but Judith Sephuma did.

Speaking to Azania Mosaka on SABC 3's Real Talk on Wednesday, the jazz singer honours Brenda Fassie for giving her the first experience on stage back in the 80s.

And she believes that the late afro-pop singer saved her life when she asked her to come live and tour the country with her for the whole month.

"The money I was getting I would send it to my mom because I didn't know what to do with it. I wasn't even supposed to be working according to me," she told the host, Azania Mosaka.

Judith says this had happened when the schools were closed because of the riots in the 80s.

"I think she possibly saved my life because I would have been involved in those riots and got hurt or worse. I lived with her."

When Azania asked her how she feels about honouring the Vulindlela hit-maker, Judith said she doesn't have a choice but to.

"I used to want to be like her. I learnt that I cannot be her. I found myself because there can never be another Brenda Fassie. We can only be inspired by her."

Also, that month with the singer in the bustling city of Jozi changed her mind about what she wanted at the time.

"The weed that I saw and more, made me decide that this is not my life, this is not what I want. Just from seeing not participating."

In 2016, in an interview with Gareth Cliff on Cliff Central, the singer revealed that she decided to pack her bags and go back home when a man had touched her inappropriately.

Judith had met Brenda when she had run away from home at the age of 13. And she was able to go under the fence, pass the security guards to get to her idol.



Giving credit . . . Judith Sephuma

"When I got to her I was already in tears. I said I want to sing for you, she said can you sing? I said yes and then she said sing for me."

Brenda was blown away by her voice that she got everyone around to back Judith while she sang.

"It was one of the most amazing moments of my life."

They both went on stage to sing Brenda's popular song, Too Late For Mama.

"I got so famous. I knew on that day that my life was different. I was not an ordinary girl. From that day onwards there were people coming into my house, my mom refused media because she didn't understand, she thought they were going to steal me or something," tells Judith who went on to study Jazz at the University of Cape Town.

-Drum

I'm not scared to die, says Yvonne

Music veteran Yvonne Chaka Chaka has lost many close friends over the last few years but says that as she gets older she doesn't worry too much about death, but about the legacy she will leave behind.

The 53-year-old star recently drew applause from fans after appearing on a TV show with Karen Zoid with silver roots.

Yvonne told TshisaLIVE that she has decided to embrace growing older, but that doesn't mean she is planning to retire.

"I am never going to dye my grey. I love it. It shows that I have lived. I travel around the world and I see children dying at the age of five, so I am grateful for my life lived and I want to use it to help make a difference. I want to reach out and also make a difference through my music. As long as there is something to fight for, I won't retire or shy away."

She said that she had lost a lot of close friends over the last few years, including Bra Hugh Masekela, but wouldn't allow the thought of death to distract her from giving back.

"I don't worry much about death. When I was younger I was scared and wouldn't even talk about it, now I don't care. Life is for the living. If I was to die today, I would be gone. I don't worry because maybe I'll be in a better place. Here you worry about crime and poverty, but when you are dead, you are dead. There is none



Enjoys giving back . . . Singer-songwriter Yvonne Chaka Chaka

of that worry."

Ma Yvonne wants to use her experience to help others, leading to Ma Winnie Mandela once asking her to mentor songstress Zahara.

"I really love her. When I saw her for the first time, I was blown away and told everyone

that this girl was going to go places. I think the important thing is to keep your feet on the ground and know what you want to do, you will always remain a star. I think that and working hard. There is no substitute."

-Timeslive



Social Scenes

A DARK, LONELY NIGHT IN THE CITY OF ROSES!



Twerking up a storm... Without a doubt, Olerato Morongwe twerked up a storm this past weekend even the good Pastor couldn't help it but drool over you darling. Not a fan of the dance move but hey, who am I to judge!



At his best... DJ "Lu" Thatohatsi is without a doubt the most underrated spin-jockey in the City of Roses but despite all that, the brother was at his utmost best this past weekend. Lord, the boy was on fire. Killing it while sober, made me wonder how he plays when intoxicated. Wow!



A drunk lion... If you've ever seen Tau-Tau aka the Lion sober kindly give me a call and I'll buy you a pack of something strong. Tau, AGAIN had a few too many to drink and hit the dance floor like crazy. Dude, I'll pray for you!



Underage in mini-dress... The shorter it is, the more you get in return, well this was the case with little skinny miss thing over the weekend. Without a doubt a HUGE no no for me. Age, the dress code, intoxication - look girly, you should have been home sleeping period!



House Trio... Bushveld, Misty Deep and SK Dog decided to grace us with their present. And why was Bushy acting all executive on us? Dude, like really. Yho! You might be the in thing like Black Labels Ses'fikile but that doesn't mean you go all pompous on us. Love you still though!



She loves her beer... Let's not get it twisted Manana Mookho loves her beer. And that's all am going to say on this subject good people.



Beauty and moves.... Two works here; beauty and moves just about sums up for these two sisters. And before I ended saying more than I should, I'll leave it here.

EXPRESSIONS

"We are not against white people. However we are of the view that the dignity of black people will not be restored until their land is returned, and the committee must expedite this to avoid people taking the land on their own by force."



Matjhabeng municipality executive mayor Nkosinjani Speelman speaking during a visit by the parliamentary committee conducting public hearings on land expropriation

"Your lives are in danger and you cannot continue to live where you are. No amount of desperation should lead you to putting your families in danger. It's not worth it."



Metro Municipality executive mayor Olly Mlamleli addressing a community meeting at Caleb Motshabi on Sunday.

"Coming to men, I had to take a pause and think deeply because now I was going to talk to people made in the image of God, so respected and powerful and unique in their own way."

Free State Premier Sisi Ntombela addressing male government employees on Tuesday in Bloemfontein

The Weekly

Editorial

Change is inevitable... time waits for no man!

Nothing stays the same. Everything changes because change is inevitable - times, people, weather, the food we eat, clothes we wear and means and ways of talking to one another and the world in its entirety, all change over time and history.

Bet if a person that passed on in the 80's would resurrect today they will feel helpless in the face of majestic malls, highways and all the infrastructural and technological advancements made since the demise of apartheid.

It is truly mind-boggling how people conveniently ignore to see change happening every day in all facets of life while they remain pre-occupied with their own static mode, and the world keeps revolving around them...without them, sheer ignorance or hopelessness at worst.

While there are those that believe time waits for no man, and that meaningful change must be rapid and embraced, there are still some of us that go by the adage 'why fix it if it is not broken,' sort of 'we're used to doing it like this' mentality that prefers time to stand still and natural progression to be halted.

Though it might seem enticing to prefer keeping the status quo the same, out of fear of the unknown and sense of comfort in the current set-up, perhaps for reasons that though not working for all it seem to work for some, it is equally true to say resisting change only leads to its might stretching over limit, making it unmanageable and out of control of authorities for positive direction and influence.

One learned scholar put it wisely to say unmanaged change breeds anarchy, lawlessness and mostly unintended fall of people's governments from grace though popular revolt and out-right rejection by the electorates at the polls.

It is hence better off for incumbent authorities to be proactive in ostering change, managing it and ensuring it is not used by forces with ulterior motives to alter founding pillars of our liberation and history.

Case in point is the topical national drive for the expropriation of land without compensation. While our government takes all the legally necessary consultative steps in the constitution with all sectors of our society to enact this piece of legislation, and correct skewed land ownership patterns in the land, there are those that have already started speaking on behalf of supposed investors who stand ready to leave the country if the law gets thumbs up in parliament.

One such leader to speak about investors going to pack and leave the country if the bill gets the nods from parliament argues that the move will lead to sky-rocketing rates of unemployment and poverty, cautioning that with foreign companies leaving most South Africans stand to lose their jobs too.

This line of reasoning harbours on selfish intent since the ones holding this dogma explicitly fails to acknowledge that the basis for the call to be made in the first place is to ensure the same investors feel welcomed and safe operating in the land which is not contested and risking litigation from neither of the parties with vested interest in it.

One would even be inclined to think anti-land expropriation proponents only push this stance to create a political dilemma for a liberation movement whose founding intentions is the same return of the land that was dispossessed back to the rightful ownership of the indigenous black and particularly African people.

These are the gate-keepers who will cheer on even when the King, His Royal Majesty is walking bare back down the streets of London, thinking he is wearing an invisible suite.

Their posture is no different from historical slave-time black Englishmen or 'house negroes' who would say "Yes Master we are sick today" whenever the slave master says "I'm sick today."

They stand ready to defend the status quo which only half serves them, half covers their needs and wants solely on the basis of the indoctrination with misdirected fear that the 'cake is not big enough for all of us'...trained and schooled in the arts of misleading economics of 'scarce resources visa-versa high demand.'

The more things change, the more they stay the same. Others argue in yet another well-structured reasoning pointing to supposed but not real fundamental change that seeks to overhaul the system and take a ninety degree turn into untested terrains.

Not just change that will be a 'farce' and an act of 'smoke screening' by the powers that be, reminiscent of rejected change that was forced down our people's throats by apartheid administrators over years as witnessed by many i.e. Bantustan homeland system.

The change needed does not have to concern itself with the continued comfort of the powerful political oligarchy, their immediate families and friends.

Instead, it should be driven and directed by the masses on the ground in a bottom-up kind of interaction, wherein vigilance over leaders who deviate from implementing majority mandated change while faced with resistant minority adversity - can be monitored and quickly dealt with as a matter of urgency.

Otherwise the leverage of numbers by the down-trodden is justifiably their only true vehicle to pushing for change that works for them against anti-change agent provocateurs hell-bent on blocking natural progression of life.



Cartoons by Zapiro from <https://www.zapiro.com>



Obama and Mandela: Legacy of a First Blacks

OPINION



LWANDI XASO

Being the first black anything is hard enough in a Eurocentric world, but being the first black president of a country with a difficult and racialised history is a task for special leaders.

I imagine that it is not easy being the first black president of a "land settled by the Dutch in the mid-17th century, then taken over by the British, and at last independent; a land in which the native inhabitants were at first subdued, but relations with whom remain a problem to this day; a land which defined itself on a hostile frontier; a land which has tamed rich natural resources through the energetic application of modern technology; a land which was once the importer of slaves, and now must struggle to wipe out the last traces of bondage".

I am imagine it was not easy being President Barack Obama. The only man who I imagine carried an even bigger burden is the first black president of South Africa, Nelson Mandela.

Obama returns to South Africa in a few

days to deliver the annual Nelson Mandela lecture in celebration of the centenary of Mandela's birthday on 17 July. It was in 2006 that the then Senator Obama visited South Africa for the first time. His inaugural visit came at a time when the relationship between the United States and the rest of the world was highly volatile as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq entered their fifth and third years respectively.

At that moment of his historic visit to Africa, Obama actually had no plans of running for the 2008 presidential elections, which is understandable considering he had just recently emerged victorious from a gruelling campaign which led to his election as the fifth African American senator in his country's history. However, his visit to South Africa would change his mind, life and history forever.

Obama's South African visit started in Cape Town where he toured Robben Island, the prison where Mandela had spent 18 years of his life sentence. He spent time in the cell occupied by Mandela,

whom he had met for the first time in May 2005, when Mandela was visiting Washington DC.

The senator took a picture with his hero which Mandela would later place symbolically behind his office chair where it remains today at the Nelson Mandela Foundation Centre of Memory.

Obama made his momentous decision to run for the presidency of the US in February 2007, shortly after his first visit to South Africa which is fitting considering that his first political act as a rebellious 18-year-old was inspired by our country. This was an anti-apartheid protest and it was the anti-apartheid movement that gave Obama a sense of racial identity and a purposeful life which set him on a course towards his place in history.

Obama's life had long been influenced by Mandela as he recalls in the foreword to Mandela's book, *Conversations with Myself*, where he writes:

"I came to know of Nelson Mandela from a distance, when he was imprisoned on Robben Island. To so many of us, he was more than just a man - he was a symbol of the struggle for justice, equality, and dignity in South Africa and around the globe. His sacrifice was so great that it called upon people everywhere to do what they could on behalf of human progress. In the most modest of ways, I was one of those people who tried to answer his call... his example helped awaken me to the wider world, and the obligation that we all

have to stand up for what is right. Through his choices, Mandela made it clear that we did not have to accept the world as it is - that we could do our part to seek the world as it should be."

Obama has said that he cannot fully imagine his own life without the example that Mandela set. How astounding it is to think that America's first black president was borne from the legacy of our first black president.

The last time Obama, then president, was in South Africa was under more sombre circumstances, the end of Mandela's long walk in 2013. Upon hearing of Mandela's death Obama reminded the world that it "falls to us as best we can to forward the example that Mandela set: to make decisions guided not by hate, but by love; to never discount the difference that one person can make; to strive for a future that is worthy of his sacrifice".

Obama returns to South Africa to remind us once again why Mandela's legacy is worthy of emulation. Obama is a fitting choice for this year's lecture as these two men share a title the burden of which many of us will never comprehend - first black president. And both men carried that title with admirable dignity.

It is not easy being the first black of anything let alone the first black president of a racially fraught country. Contending with deeply entrenched pessimistic views

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Malema forgets Indians fought alongside black people

EFF leader Julius Malema says "most Indians are racists" but he forgets to add ... most whites are racists and most blacks are racists.

Racism is the last refuge of the scoundrel and they abound in every race. Only the enlightened ones have risen above race, colour, creed or religion and view all, as fellow South Africans.

Factually dissecting the issue - Indians were shipped in by the British to work the sugar cane plantations, comparable to African slaves who worked American cotton plantations, and only later the Indian merchant class came via their own steam.

Apartheid laws discriminated against ALL non-whites EQUALLY. If a sign said 'WHITES ONLY' it meant 'whites only' with no exception whatsoever.

Apartheid also built on the colonial

policy of 'divide and rule', categorising 'non-whites' into African, Indian and Coloured and then sub-divided Africans into Zulu, Xhosa, Sotho, Tswana, Pedi, Venda, Ndebele, Tsonga, Pondo and Swati.

Differences and hatred were thus sewn into the fabric of South African 'non-white' society.

This begs the question why Indians have made such progress, if they were not favoured above the Africans?

The answer lies in Indian culture. When an Indian achieves success, he/she does not climb the ladder alone, he/she takes the community with, by building schools, religious institutions like churches, mosques or temples and hospitals. So, one person's material success ripples along an entire community who share in the benefits and thus enjoy upliftment, even under dire apartheid conditions and it

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continues without losing a beat.

Malema views Indians' material success and simply attributes it to a favoured apartheid status and their racism, and this perception is not only wrong, it is based on envy!

The British had referred to Indians as "coolies" - a bag carrier in the Hindi language - the lowest in the social strata. Zulus had adopted a similar superior attitude and adapted the word to "Amacoola". This is hurtful to Indians,

particularly those who had fought for freedom side by side with black people, including Zulus. And Malema is stoking this racism!

Instead, Malema should take a leaf out of Indian culture and lead the EFF, in uplifting previously disadvantaged South Africans regardless of race, colour or creed, by building schools and hospitals and not using race to garner votes at the expense of race relations and possible violence resulting from the hate he spews.



RAFIQUE GANGAT



"You must remember that Thuma Mina means nothing else but that the ANC is focusing on our people; it is an expression of focus and action in ensuring we respond directly to issues of service delivery challenges."

ANC Free State provincial spokesman Thabo Meeko announcing the holding of a 'Thuma Mina' campaign this weekend



"Carl Niehaus has got no such mandate. He is an MKMVA [Mkhonto weSizwe] spokesperson. The ANC will speak for itself. The ANC did not mandate him to go and speak on its behalf and go and apologise."

ANC elections head Fikile Mbalula distancing the party from an apology made by the party's former spokesman Carl Niehaus during a land imbizo in KwaZulu-Natal.



EXPRESSIONS

Moyane's false argument politically motivated

OPINION



PIERRE DE VOS

From a legal perspective, the attempts by former SARS Commissioner Tom Moyane and his legal representative Dali Mpfu to paint the SARS commission of Inquiry as "grossly unfair" to Moyane, and the demand that the commission cease its work, are rather odd as the arguments have no valid legal basis and are based on false claims.

But – while unethical – it may make sense from a political perspective to try and create an impression in the minds of ordinary people (and governing party leaders) not knowledgeable about the law, that the commission is biased against Moyane.

A Commission of Inquiry is not a court of law. Neither is it a tribunal that can make binding findings against any individual. In terms of our law, the President has the power to appoint a Commission of Inquiry on any topic

of public importance and to decide on its terms of reference.

The commission then gathers evidence in an inquisitorial manner, which means it gathers information on its own steam, and also invites interested individuals to make submissions to it. Anyone can approach the commission with information, so it would be absurd for any person to argue that he or she was not given the opportunity to present his or her perspective on the range of issues being investigated.

Ideally the aim is to get as much information as possible to assist the commission to write a thorough report that will assist the President to make informed policy decisions on the issue investigated. The findings and recommendations are not binding. The President, at his or her discretion, can do with the findings and recommendations as he or she sees fit.

At its best, a Commission of Inquiry is a process aimed at assisting the President and his or her government to make informed policy decisions about a specific matter, assisted by the well informed and knowledgeable findings and recommendations of the commission.

A Commission of Inquiry is a policy enhancing tool. The President has a wide discretion on who to appoint to serve on the commission. Because a commission of Inquiry is policy oriented, it makes no legal sense to argue that a commission of Enquiry is grossly unfair to a particular individual.

While its findings and recommendations can be reviewed and set aside by a court of law if these are irrational, it is a legal nonsense to attack the commission because it appears to favour a certain policy perspective. It is the President's prerogative to appoint people whose views he or she trusts to assist him or her to make policy decisions.

Moreover, the President appoints the Commission of Inquiry and the commission has the legal duty to do its job in accordance with the terms of reference provided by the President. Only the President can change its terms of reference, withdraw its mandate, or change any of the personnel serving on it.

To ask the commission to cease its activities and for one of its participants to recuse himself (as advocate Dali Mpfu did last week) therefore

makes no legal sense as the commission does not have the power to do any of these things. It is like someone approaching me and demanding that I score the winning goal in the Soccer World Cup final. It is sadly not something I am entitled to do or will ever be able to do.

This process is very different from the accusatorial process followed in court and tribunal proceedings where different parties present evidence in an accusatorial process. In court proceedings accusations are made by one party against another and the person being accused then gets the opportunity to try and rebut those accusations. In such proceedings the court or tribunal will make a finding against one or more of the parties who were part of the accusatorial process.

In this regard, the SARS commission is no different from the many other commissions appointed over the years. As the chairperson of the commission made clear, at the outset he invited all interested parties to make submissions to the commission. The commission then looks at the written submissions and if it so wishes (but there is no duty to do so) it can call some of those who made submissions to give oral evidence to the commission.

Moyane (or anyone who supports him – whether they worked are SARS or not) therefore has an open invitation to make submissions to the commission. The chairperson of the

commission has also stated that if Moyane requested to give oral evidence, this will be arranged. For some inexplicable reason Moyane has refused to do so.

In other words, given the opportunity to provide his perspective on the matters being investigated by the commission, Moyane declined, instead falsely arguing that the commission was grossly unfair (partly because he was not given the opportunity to give his perspective) and demanding the impossible – namely that the commission stop doing what the President has instructed it to do, an instruction the commission has a legal duty to comply with.

In the absence of any other reasonable explanation, it will be difficult not to conclude that Moyane is not keen to provide his perspective on the issues being considered by the commission. Moyane's lawyer advanced a reason of sorts for this reluctance to provide the commission with his perspective, namely that he is facing a disciplinary tribunal and that the commission amounts to him being subjected to "double jeopardy".

Legally, this is an odd claim. "Double jeopardy" is a procedural defence that prevents an accused person from being tried again on the same (or similar) charges and on the same facts, following a valid acquittal or conviction. A Commission of Inquiry can never subject

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Cyril should look at IMF's 10 points



THANDISIZWE MGUDLWA



On charm offensive . . . Deputy minister Bulelani Magwanishe

The four months young Cyril Ramaphosa Administration has been provided with a barometer on what it need to do if South Africa is to succeed.

This week, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released a new report on South Africa.

The report is highlighting where the country is succeeding, as well as points of concern.

This comes after an IMF team led by Ana Lucia Coronel visited South Africa from 28 May-11 June, to conduct its regular Article IV surveillance activities.

The discussions had focused on measures and reforms to reignite growth and reduce poverty and inequality.

"South Africa's potential is significant, yet growth over the past five years has not benefitted from the global recovery," the report noted.

"The economy is globally positioned, sophisticated, and diversified, and several sectors - agribusiness, mining, manufacturing, and services - have capacity for expansion.

"Combined with strong institutions and a young workforce, opportunities are

vast. However, several constraints have held growth back.

"Policy uncertainty and a regulatory environment not conducive to private investment have resulted in GDP growth rates that have not kept up with those of population growth, reducing income per capita, and hurting disproportionately the poor," it said.

The report further noted that the projected growth rate of 1.5% was still insufficient to make a meaningful dent in unemployment, poverty, and inequality. However it added that growth is unlikely to exceed 2% over the medium term.

And this report does praise a number reform efforts introduced since president Ramaphosa took office at the start of the year.

These include new measure adopted to tackle corruption, such as changes in boards and/or management of major state-owned enterprises (SOEs); an inquiry into tax administration; actions to strengthen procurement; the signing of contracts with independent power producers; and in general, the intention to eliminate wasteful expenditure.

Even though the group said that these reforms are welcome, it cautioned that it's not enough.

To durably improve growth and lift people out of poverty, these actions need to be followed by strict enforcement of good regulations, such as the Public Financial Management Act, and the implementation of a broad set

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of reforms, it noted.

According to the IMF, materially turning the economy around toward strong and inclusive growth will require swift implementation of a bold reform agenda.

"Reforms in product and labor markets must span all sectors of the economy, and implementation carried out expeditiously," it added.

The group said that 'quick win' reforms should be implemented right away so that the economy could benefit from them sooner rather than later – while wider-reaching reforms (which will take some time), should be initiated as soon as possible.

Notably, the IMF said that the introduction of the national minimum wage has the potential to benefit workers – but its impact should be carefully monitored, and complementary measures envisaged if undue effects on youth employment and small- and medium-sized enterprises ensue.

The finance body also said that clarity was needed around land reform.

Ten proposed changes include, Maximising

the benefits of social grants for the poor by reducing intermediation costs; Clarifying mining regulation to foster private investment in the sector; Allocating broadband spectrum to the private sector to increase competition, improve the quality of service, and reduce user charges; Mitigating skill shortages by addressing onerous visa requirements for hiring skilled workers; Increasing private-sector participation to support cost-effective energy distribution and transportation; Improving efficiency of SOEs to lower the costs to businesses and consumers, and reduce fiscal risks; Reducing red tape to lower entry barriers for businesses and strengthen competition; Enhancing flexibility in the labor market, improving basic education, and aligning training with business needs to help increase employment over time, particularly that of the youth; Monitoring the impact of the national minimum wage; and clearly articulating policy and regulatory decisions related to land reform in a fair, transparent, and market-friendly manner would help remove uncertainty, which is currently weighing on investor sentiment.

Letters to the Editor

WRITE TO: newsroom@theweekly.co.za
FAX: (051) 446 4723

The Editor reserves the right to edit and reject letters. Pseudonyms may be used, but must be clearly marked as such. All correspondence, including emails and SMSes, must include your name, address, and a phone number. Preference will be given to shorter letters.

Call for vigilance during this veld fire season

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is calling on all farmers and farming communities in the Free State to be vigilant during this veld fire season.

This follows sporadic fires that have taken place in Jacobsdal at a vineyard and other fires that have erupted in Kroonstad recently.

The Disaster and Risk Management Unit in the Department has conducted several awareness campaigns across the province on veld/fire awareness, encouraging communities to create fire belts to prevent veldfires. A total of 41 awareness campaign days were held across

the province last year and in the first quarter of this financial year.

The total number of hectares that burnt last season in the Free State totalled to 250 000 hectares. It is expected that this year due to the high fuel load on the ground veld fires will easily spark and it should be noted that already 115 000 hectares has burnt this year which mostly occurred in the Tokologo Local Municipality.

The following are tips relating to wild fires:

Prohibit fires in the open air during periods of high fire hazards e.g. high

winds and dry times.

To control fires effectively early warning and alarm systems, firefighting teams and beaters must be organized in advance and plans prepared.

The establishment of Fire Protection Associations with Fire Control Teams is highly recommended.

The following are recommendations for prevention of veldfires:]

Communities and households should always ensure that sufficient firebreaks are in place.

A firebreak has to be wide enough and

long enough to have a reasonable chance of preventing a veld fire from spreading to or from neighbouring land or at least be able to be used to do back burns from.

An owner of the land, who is obliged to prepare and maintain a firebreak, must ensure that, with due regard to the weather, climate, terrain and vegetation of the area, the following is taken care of in terms of the making of firebreaks

Chapter 4 of the National Veld and Forest Fire Act No. 101 of 1998) prescribes:

4.1 A firebreak may not cause soil erosion

and a firebreak is to be reasonably free of inflammable material capable of carrying a veld fire across it.

4.2 Farming communities should establish Fire Protection Associations (FPAs) to prevent and control veld fires as required by the National Veld and Forest Fire Act (Act No. 101 of 1998).

4.3 Remove alien vegetation that contributes to more soil moisture losses and will ensure that less fuel are available that can burn.

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Communication
Free State

One on One

with Mgcinazwe Zwane

Fuel prices this week shot through the roof following a 26 cent increase largely due to the weakening of the rand against major currencies. Petrol now costs about R16. Petrol was already at an all-time high after an increase of 82 cents per litre in June. The latest fuel increase is therefore expected to hit the already-reeling consumers hard. **The Weekly's Martin Makoni** asked **Central University of Technology Senior Economics Lecturer Mgcinazwe Zwane** whether these continued increases were the best option for government given their ripple effect on consumers. Makoni also asked Zwane how the proposed land expropriation without compensation could be used to improve the situation of largely the black majority who do not own the means of production and are usually the first to feel the effects of price increases. Excerpts:



How much do you see the latest round of fuel price increases affecting South African consumers?

There is no doubt the increases will affect South African citizens, especially the consumers. The poorest of the poor will be hard hit in their pockets because you will recall that fuel price increases are not inflation linked. Therefore, one cannot say that, because of the fuel price increases, people's salaries or incomes should also be increased based on the anomalies we are seeing in the fuel prices all of a sudden. So, if I was paying R30 to go to town, and the taxi fare is increased to R35, I as a consumer, will not get that R5 extra in my pocket. I will have no choice but to part with R5 more than I budgeted for. Other goods and services will also increase as a result of the fuel price increase. Food prices will increase because retailers won't be able to absorb the price increases. They will have to pass the buck because the transporters will increase their charges. The consumers, unfortunately, can't pass it on to anyone. They have to take the

punch. This will also affect economic growth. How will people realise and spend more on other things when transportation takes the bulk of their money? Their wage increases do not match the price hikes for most of the goods and services they use. It's a vicious cycle.

What would you say are the major contributing factors to the fuel price increases and can something be done about them in order to ease their effect?

There are some reasons that contribute to these increases which are both internationally and locally linked. Now, the international ones, we don't have powers over them because they relate to the rand exchange rate against the dollar, and we don't know what will happen tomorrow if the OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) decide to increase or decrease fuel production. We don't have a say on that. But when it comes to the local situation, we can have a say on the fuel prices. The government has influence. Remember the breakdown of our fuel price is made up of the

levy, we have taxes, we have the RAF (Road Accident Fund), the storage and transportation charges are all included there. Now, when we buy fuel in the form of crude oil from overseas, we pay for insurance, we pay for the transportation to our shores. From our shores, we have pipes carrying the oil from Durban to Johannesburg, to Pretoria and to Cape Town. Those pipes have to be maintained and it costs money to do that. So, when you come up with the total price for fuel, you include all those mechanisms. And fortunately, all these points contribute a huge chunk to the cost of fuel. But the government can also say that, look Lesotho buys fuel from us and it's almost R3 cheaper than us. In Botswana, it's almost R4 cheaper than us. But they also buy from us. This is mainly because they don't have the RAF and other levies on fuel.

How difficult is it for the country to subsidise the fuel price so that it becomes more affordable? How practical is it and what will it take for government to achieve this?

The first thing we need to do is to look at the reserves we have in this country. We have a very big plant in Sasolburg, here in the Free State where they produce oil from coal. We have enough coal reserves to last for about 150 years. If you want to see how much coal we have in this country, just go to Richards Bay in KwaZulu Natal and see these big trains taking the coal to the harbour to be exported to China. If that coal can be converted to energy here and produce fuel locally, that will certainly go a long way. Why do we have the Sasolburg plant if we can't utilise it? Here in Bothaville, we had farmers who were saying that they wanted to produce biodiesel, but the government said no, we cannot allow you to do that. Why? Because they knew that biodiesel was going to be more affordable to the farmers and the big trucking companies. If we can utilise what we have in our country, we could serve quite a lot. We have the means. We have the coal and we also have LP (liquid petroleum) gas in the Western Cape and around the harbour of PE (Port Elizabeth). There is a lot of gas there which we are exporting to Angola and other countries. Why can't we use it for energy here? We have the means but these are not being utilised. And if our energy needs are addressed using local resources, energy becomes cheaper and in the process, we create employment.

If I can take you back to the issue of the RAF, one would want to believe that the RAF is designed for a worthy cause, where are the authorities getting it wrong?

The RAF in South Africa is not really serving much purpose because people continue to drive recklessly. So, what's point of punishing every other driver by making them pay for those that are not conscious with their driving? And last week we heard that the RAF is broke. So, one

can assume that maybe this bankruptcy of the RAF gave rise to this high price of fuel because they want to close that gap. I may be wrong in this assumption, but that's how some people would look at it. It could be implemented better with more transparency and accountability.

Given the overall picture you gave earlier on the effects of fuel increases, what should government consider before effecting fuel price increases?

They should do a research on how to realise economic growth and how important it is for the economy to grow. Firstly, do we need a tax on fuel? For what? People pay for their vehicles to undergo roadworthy tests and they also pay for motor vehicle licences. Now, do we need to also tax the consumers' fuel for the RAF? Why should we do that? Why can't we find money somewhere else to sustain the RAF? I know we cannot just say let's do away with RAF. We need to find other mechanisms to fund some of these things. The energy department knows very well that the rich will not suffer from these increases. The poor are going to suffer more. It's the government of the people by the people for the people. Not the government of the people for the minority who are well off, who can still afford to drive the big machines. So, my argument will be, how about taxing the capacity of the engine, linked to the fuel price? If you drive a big machine, then you have to pay more. If you drive a small machine, you pay less. I believe in that we are also helping the ozone layer through the emission tax. We need to protect nature. We need to relook how we come up with the final price for fuel.

But given the challenges faced by people today owing to the rise in the cost of living, do you think the government knows what needs to be done to address these challenges?

To be honest with you, our government is lost. We have people who have no clue about what's happening in the economy. Because, if they knew what's happening in the economy, they would have asked for assistance from some of the experts we have in this country. They could have called economists, statisticians and others to come and sit down around a table and discuss how best to address the issue of fuel price increases in our country, among others. But unfortunately, our government is clueless. It needs to work with independent experts to address the challenges faced by the country.

So, given the resources that South Africa has, will it be fair to say the fuel increases are not justifiable?

The country's fuel resources are not being utilised and the price increases are not fair and they are not justifiable. The country's leadership should look into these issues urgently and critically. They need to come up with ways of sustaining our energy needs and improve the

lives of the poor. At this rate that we are going at, we are actually not helping our economy. I will not be surprised if come August, people start striking. People will be saying, we need more incomes to sustain the fuel price increases. The taxi industry will also be saying we need to increase our fares based on the fuel increases and other cost factors. Already, in the taxi hailing industry, those contracted to Uber have already started talking. They are saying the fuel price increases are affecting them because their fares have not increased. So, I won't be surprised if we are going to have an industrial action that could badly affect the economy.

Fuel has a very direct effect on agriculture, and presently the country is in the middle of a debate on whether to expropriate land without compensation, what do you think about this debate, is the country heading in the right direction?

Look, if you recall, mid 1997/98, the government came up with this scheme of giving land to people who were working on the land. The result was a disaster. People were given farms together with the tools. Some were doing crops, others, cattle, poultry and so on. If you look at some of those farms today, they are a desert because the people were just looking for money. Some of them sold those farms back to the white farmers. Now, if the government wants to implement land expropriation without compensation, we are actually heading for a disaster. There is nothing wrong with taking the land, but who are you going to give it to? You have not trained the people on how to make use of the land. How do you expect them to know what to do with it to make it productive? You know, China, back in the 1970s, it sent its youngsters overseas to America and other countries to go and learn different trades. The youths were sent to Germany to learn how to make cars, to America, for IT (Information Technology) and other European countries. After studying, they were called back to apply that knowledge at home in order to grow their economy. Look at China today. It's a super power. Now, you come to South Africa, people are sitting around a table saying we need to give land back to the people. How so? Are you going to give land to someone who has never had just R10 000 in their bank account. How do you expect that person to behave when they have such money in their account? We need to identify the rightful owners of the land, train them in different skills, empower them so that they don't rely on the state. I once visited Zanzibar. You many think I am lying to you, there are no shacks in Zanzibar, as small as it is. There are big houses there. The people are self-sustainable. They make their own bricks, thereby creating employment and they build the houses themselves. We need to start from there in this country.

We need NHI now more than ever

The Department of Health recently released the white paper on the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill for public comment. It is the right of every citizen to participate in this democratic process. However, it doesn't mean that opinions should be allowed to trump facts or that misleading perceptions should be left unchallenged.

Bandile Hadebe wrote an article published in Daily Maverick on 2 July 2018 titled "Finally, the National Health Insurance is here - to fix nothing".

He calls the NHI a mere PR exercise. In the current socio-economic situation of the country this is an insult to the majority of the population who are the poor and the working class.

The NHI Bill is very important to the working class and the poor, a class in society which is at the receiving end of the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and equality.

Currently, young people, a stratum in society which accounts for more than half of the South African population, are faced with the challenge of more than 50% of its numbers being unemployed.

This should be common sense to a national

head for strategy for Progressive Youth in Business. In layman's terms, this means that a majority of young people, who are the most vulnerable to many diseases and illnesses, cannot afford private health services and are forced to use public health services.

These, according to Hadebe, are understaffed, under-resourced and have debilitating infrastructure deficits.

But why is this the case?

The current financing of the healthcare system in South Africa is two-tiered, with a large proportion of funding allocated through medical schemes, various hospital care plans and out-of-pocket payments. This current funding arrangement provides cover to private patients who have purchased a benefit option with a scheme of their choice or as a result of their employment conditions. It only benefits those who are employed and are subsidised by their employers - both the state and the private sector. The other portion is funded through the fiscus and is mainly for public sector users. This means that those with medical scheme cover have a choice of providers operating in the private sector which is not extended to the rest

of the population.

According to the Department of Health, "the private sector also has its own problems albeit these are of a different nature and mainly relate to the costs of services. This relates to the pricing and utilisation of services. The high costs are linked to high service tariffs, provider-induced utilisation of services and the continued over-servicing of patients on a fee-for-service basis. Evidently, the private sector will not be sustainable over the medium to long term." (DOH 2011:7).

The country spends massive amounts of capital on the healthcare system which only services and benefits a few. Equally, the majority of healthcare professionals only service a few while a few healthcare professionals service the majority of the population (Department of Health).

Hadebe makes a further claim that South Africa has universal health coverage. The global consensus around universal health coverage is understood in the context of this phenomenon as outlined by the World Health Organisation (WHO). According to the WHO, the definition of universal health coverage is as follows:

"Universal health coverage (UHC) means that all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship.

"This definition of UHC embodies three related objectives:

Equity in access to health services - everyone who needs services should get them, not only those who can pay for them;

The quality of health services should be good enough to improve the health of those receiving services; and

People should be protected against financial risk, ensuring that the cost of using services does not put people at risk of financial harm.

"UHC is firmly based on the WHO constitution of 1948 declaring health a fundamental human right and on the Health for All agenda set by the Alma Ata declaration in 1978. UHC cuts across all of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and brings hope of better health and protection for the world's poorest."

The South African healthcare system does not meet all these requirements due to reasons mentioned earlier. It is therefore incorrect to claim that South Africa has universal health coverage.

There is no doubt that the healthcare system needs reform in the interest of all, particularly the working class and the poor who are at the receiving end of the injustices of our economy.

Section 27 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa states the right to quality and affordable healthcare; it clearly states that everyone has the right to "healthcare services, including reproductive healthcare" (South Africa 1996). The NHI is a necessary reform in realising the right to quality healthcare services for all, as enshrined in the Constitution.

The current healthcare system is based on the ability to pay, rather than the need. Therefore, the purpose of the NHI is to address this problem, by giving everyone equal access to healthcare based on the need and not on their socio-economic conditions. The claim that the country does not need the NHI is senseless and does not grasp the root of the challenges that the healthcare system in the country is facing, but equally, it is made outside the logic of understanding the current socio-economic conditions in the country. -DM

DA, EFF at odds over land occupation



OPINION

KIMBERLY MUTANDIRO

An EFF-supported land occupation in the Old Brakpan township has elicited condemnation from the DA.

"This is a political stunt," said Brandon Pretorius, the ward councillor for the area.

Last week GroundUp reported that the EFF facilitated a land occupation in the area. The occupiers were subsequently removed by Metro Police and their shacks demolished. But some people have begun returning. EFF leaders in charge have assured the reoccupation indicating they will be taking the matter to court.

"They should stop encouraging people to occupy that piece of land unlawfully," said Pretorius.

"The problem is that we are getting people from as far as Soweto occupying the land and at this stage it is difficult to say who are the real beneficiaries for that land."

But people occupying the land want the councillor to address them in person.

"We have been waiting for the councillor to come and address us, but every time he sends Metro Police," said Lewis Sithole, one of the occupiers.

DA caucus leader for Ekurhuleni, Phillip de Lange, has confirmed that a meeting will be held in two weeks' time in which Councillor Pretorius will be addressing the occupiers.

So far about 30 people have finished rebuilding their shacks. Others are slowly coming back hoping that they will not be forced to move again.

Martha Ntuli has started rebuilding. After her shack was demolished she, her three children and grandchild were accommodated at nearby shacks belonging to occupiers who are waiting for their case to be finalised in court. One of the occupiers allowed her to use a vacant shack on his stand.

Ntuli insists that it is time to rebuild. She is using cheaper wooden material to rebuild. Her

aluminium material was confiscated by Metro Police, she said.

"Well-wishers have given me material to rebuild my shack. I cannot go back to my grandparents home. I am too old to live with them now," the 37-year-old said.

Ntuli had been renting a shack in Slovo, 5km from Springs. She had gone to live in Slovo after leaving a farm compound in Devon where she lived with her grandparents. A friend had told her about the Old Brakpan township land allocation. She is a single mother and unemployed.

"This land is my only hope for giving my three children a home," she said.

Joseph Mthimuni and his wife have also started rebuilding. They had been homeless before coming to the Old Brakpan location. They are now rebuilding a shack using cardboard box material.

"We cannot afford to buy any more aluminium material. As long as the supporting poles are strong the cardboard box shack will do for now. If it rains that's another story," said Mthimuni.

Sesi Ndlovu, chairperson of the EFF in the ward, said they would be opposing the demolitions in court.

"It is a violation of human rights to forcefully remove people from a place they have lived for more than 24 hours," he said.

Moyane's false argument politically motivated

Continues from page 15

any person to "double jeopardy" as it is a policy enhancing inquisitorial process and not an accusatorial "trial" that can make binding findings on the guilt or innocence of any individual. As the commission is not a criminal trial (nor a disciplinary tribunal), the principle of double jeopardy does not apply.

Furthermore, to claim, as Dali Mpofu did last week, that Moyane was not given an opportunity to make submissions to the commission is therefore false. Why Advocate Mpofu would make this claim when he must know that it is not true, is not immediately clear.

From the above it must be clear that from a legal and factual perspective the claims advanced on behalf of Moyane by Advocate Mpofu regarding the commission makes little sense. (It is also unethical for an advocate knowingly to make false submissions on behalf of his or her client.)

But perhaps there is a political reason for this strategy. While Moyane and his lawyers must know that they have no legal leg to stand on, their aim might be political and not legal.

The reason for this may lie in the very fact that Commissions of Inquiry are appointed by the President and are supposed to be policy enhancing tools to assist the executive to do its job properly. But as we all know, commissions are pliable and serve the interests of the President who appoints them. They often do not only serve a policy enhancing purpose, but also a more overt political purpose.

Presidents often appoint Commissions of Inquiry not only (or even not primarily) to assist them to make good policy decisions. Presidents also sometimes appoint Commissions of Inquiry to manage a difficult political situation.

Sometimes the President appoints a Commission of Inquiry because he or she wants to be seen to do something about an issue which has led to a public outcry, but he or she does not really want to do anything about it.

That is why President Jacob Zuma appointed the Marikana Commission and the Arms Deal Commission. He knew that he could decide on the terms of reference, he could choose the personnel, and in the event of the commission

making findings or recommendations that he did not like, he could ignore these – all while the public was given the impression that something was being done.

In other cases, a President may need political cover to make decisions that would be difficult to sell to his or her own party or to the public. I suspect this is why President Cyril Ramaphosa appointed the SARS Commission. Perhaps he wanted to take action against those who captured SARS, but he knew that this was not universally supported within the leadership of his own party.

If this is correct, the rather ham-handed attempts (from a legal perspective at least) to discredit the SARS commission makes perfect sense. Those who have lots to fear if SARS is rejuvenated (or who get financial support for themselves or for their political parties from people who have lots to fear from a robust SARS) would obviously wish to discredit the SARS commission to make it politically more difficult for the President to act on its recommendations, assuming that those recommendations – if acted on – will enhance the ability of SARS to go after large corporate interests and wealthy politically connected individuals.

If the public (or at least some gullible leaders within the governing party) could be convinced that the SARS Commission was somehow unfair or tainted in any way, the President would find it more difficult to use whatever findings the commission produces to make sweeping changes to SARS.

It is for this reason that I would not be surprised if the legally unsustainable claims made against the commission are not being made to achieve a legal end, but rather to achieve a political end. It would be interesting to see how many people fall for this ruse.

Pierre De Vos teaches Constitutional law at the University of Cape Town Law Faculty, where he serves as deputy dean and as the Claude Leon Foundation Chair in Constitutional Governance.

'Mpofu's EFF link to Moyane fishy'



OPINION

CHARLES CILLIERS

In a tweet that evoked much reaction on Wednesday, investigative journalist Jacques Pauw, the author of massive bestselling book *The President's Keepers*, questioned the real motive behind Advocate Dali Mpofu controversially agreeing to defend suspended SA Revenue Service (Sars) boss Tom Moyane.

He said there could possibly be a link between Moyane and the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) due to Moyane having allegedly improperly helped illegal cigarette kingpin Adriano Mazzotti, while Mazzotti is also known to be a funder of the EFF.

Pauw asked: "Why is Dali Mpofu committing hara-kiri [suicide] in defending Tom Moyane? Is it because they have a common friend: tobacco-man Adriano Mazzotti? Under Moyane, Mazzotti's R600m tax bill disappeared. He also paid EFF registration fee in 2014 and gave Malema a loan to help pay his SARS bill."

Mazzotti once told City Press he had given Julius Malema's party R200 000 to register themselves, though there are allegations that he has given the party, and Malema, much more money.

Mazzotti has also been linked to other underworld figures such as Glenn Agliotti and features prominently in Pauw's book.

Pauw wrote in his book that Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma's campaign to become the ANC's next president was partly being funded by Mazzotti, whom Pauw described as a tobacco smuggler.

According to an affidavit in Pauw's possession, Mazzotti had admitted to bribing public officials, laundering money and committing fraud. He is director of cigarette company Carnilix, which is still under investigation by Sars for smuggling and tax evasion.

Pauw was also critical on Wednesday of Mpofu for demanding that constitutional

law expert Professor Pierre de Vos withdraw a critical blog post about him "before noon today" – a demand that De Vos, who is currently abroad, in effect laughed off. Pauw characterised it as suggesting Mpofu might have smoked something powerful – a clear reference to not only drugs but the cigarette business that may link it all.

Pauw is not the only well-known journalist to criticise the Mpofu-Moyane relationship. Max du Preez, over the weekend, was among those questioning Moyane's decision to employ Mpofu, calling it a potential conflict of interest arising from Sars investigating how Malema had paid his R18 million tax bill in 2014, with News24 alleging that "impeccable sources" had found Mazzotti to be a particularly generous financial donor to allow Malema to repay his tax bill.

It emerged during the Nugent inquiry into misconduct at Sars that former tax executive Jonas Makwakwa, thought to be Moyane's right-hand man, allegedly halted the inspection of cigarette companies, according to testimony given by ex-Sars employee Gene Ravele.

Mpofu, acting on behalf of Moyane, on Friday called for the Nugent inquiry to be halted altogether, in an interesting turn of events, considering that Moyane himself initially called for the inquiry to take place. Malema, too, had initially been critical of Mpofu's decision to defend Moyane, only for him to last week unexpectedly lend his support to Mpofu's attempt to have the investigation of Moyane halted.

Mpofu on Friday requested that all testimony given over the first three days of the inquiry be expunged from the record, claiming the evidence given had been unfair and unlawful.

Retired Judge Robert Nugent dismissed all Mpofu's demands.

Not going anywhere . . . Former president Jacob Zuma

ANC is in Zuma's blood: Ramaphosa

As alliance partners continue to question Jacob Zuma's involvement in the African National Congress (ANC) election campaign, President Cyril Ramaphosa has made it clear the former president will remain in the ruling party forever.

Ramaphosa was speaking during an interview with television channel France 24.

Alliance partners have raised concerns that deploying Zuma to campaign for the party

will impact negatively on the image of the organisation.

On Tuesday, head of elections in the ANC Fikile Mbalula said that Zuma will continue to be deployed on the campaign trail.

While questions are being raised by some in the ANC about the future of Zuma in the party, Ramaphosa says he is here to stay.

"Zuma will remain a member of the ANC until the last day of his life."

Ramaphosa says he doesn't think Zuma will ever turn against the party.

"The ANC is in his blood and I don't ever see him turning against the organisation that made him what he is."

There have been reports that the former president is linked to a new political party which seeks to destabilise the ANC at a national level.

Zuma has since dismissed those reports. -EWN

Legacy of the First Blacks

Continues from page 14

of black leadership – being the first black president leaves little margin for error; your success as the first black is bound up with the image of an entire people which you represent. You are the vessel for their redemption and success.

How the first black president performs reverberates in classrooms, boardrooms and every facet of society. As a black person you hope that you can hold your head up high at school, the workplace and everywhere else and not have to answer for any ills or mistakes made by your black president.

The title of first black comes with intense scrutiny and unrealistically high standards and expectations to solve all the problems that plague your kinfolk. Both Mandela and Obama are proof that first blacks have to be almost perfect or else risk confirming the stereotype that black people are not fit to lead.

The leadership quality I admire most from these two men is their ability to keep a cool head even under extreme pressure.

One of my favourite stories about Mandela was before he was elected president but when he became our shadow president. His biographer, Richard Stengel, recalls how after hearing of Chris Hani's assassination, probably the closest we came to a civil war, Mandela was preternaturally calm and after making plans to go to Johannesburg to speak to the nation, methodically finished eating his breakfast.

This was not an indulgent act by Mandela but a demonstration of level-headedness needed to calm the storm. The ability to compartmentalise his emotions, get through the tedious tasks of

the day before going out to save the world is the kind of leader that we can all strive to be especially in today's provocative climate.

Similarly Obama exhibited the same leadership quality especially when he decided to forego a military strike after being presented with near-definitive proof that President Bashar al-Assad of Syria had used chemical weapons. In defence of his controversial decision Obama said that "to press the pause button at that moment, I knew, would cost me politically. And the fact that I was able to pull back from the immediate pressures and think through in my own mind what was in America's interest, not only with respect to Syria but also with respect to our democracy, was as tough a decision as I've made – and I believe ultimately it was the right decision to make."

These are just a few examples where both leaders have demonstrated an even temperament in the face of volatility which seems out of pace with today's erratic, impatient and reactive world.

Both Obama and Mandela were presidents in times of great division and instead of exploiting the division for their own political expediency they appealed to the best in us. Obama's admiration of Mandela is rooted in the promise embodied by Mandela's life that human beings, and countries, can change for the better.

Mandela's first speech in Cape Town after his release in 1990 and Obama's speech accepting his election as the president of the US in 2008 share the same thread – that the need for unity as a people is as important a task as it always has been.

Mandela attributed his release and the fall of apartheid to the people as a mass movement and called on our white compatriots to join us in the shaping of a new South Africa. Obama too acknowledged that his victory was that of the people, reminding his fellow countrymen that they rise or fall as one nation, as one people.

Obama and Mandela appealed to our humanity because they understood that real transformation of a society happens when we change not just its political system but the character of that system. Changing the character of the system remains necessary not just for the public sector but the private sector which desperately needs radically empathetic, thoughtful and just leaders who would do well by answering Mandela's call to stand up for what is right.

Both South Africa and the US are not short of darkness and ugliness. However, these two first black leaders didn't see their task as hiding that ugliness but rather as reminding us that there is something in all of us that is good and that will ultimately win out even if it takes decades.

These two men represent the pinnacle of black leadership but the journey does not end with them. The Mandela centenary has provided a space of reflecting on how I can live the legacy I have inherited by those who came before me. Living the legacy means being trailblazers and pioneers in our own lives and spaces. Living the legacy means pushing for change and progress where we are called to.

Lwando Xaso is an attorney and budding historian.

Analysts upbeat on new vehicle sales

Motor industry analysts are sticking to their guns that 2018 new vehicle sales will exceed those of 2017, despite sales lagging at the halfway point.

June new vehicle sales, released by the Department of Trade and Industry on Monday, improved by 3% from 45,332 to 46,678 compared to the corresponding 2017 month.

Though car sales grew 4.4%, from 28,625 to 29,886, it was not enough to drag first-half 2018 numbers out of the red.

Ghana Msibi, sales and marketing head at WesBank, said he was still confident the market would accelerate in the second half of the year.

June's encouraging sales showed the market was moving in the right direction.

The National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA (Naamsa) also expected full-year growth but with the rider of "a challenging economic environment going forward".

Naamsa and Msibi both said new vehicle sales traditionally increased in the second half of the year, even though that impetus may have been slightly undermined by March's surge in

pre-emptive buying to beat the April 1 increase in VAT.

Sales of commercial vehicles in June were generally downbeat, with only heavy trucks showing improvement.

Even those were in arrears at the 2018 halfway point, in common with other categories.

Vehicle exports disappointed in June, falling 15.2% compared to a year earlier, from 31,595 to 26,790. For the first six months, they were down 0.8%, from 155,237 to 152,841.

Naamsa continues to predict full-year exports will improve on 2017 but warned that SA may be hurt by the wave of protectionism in the US.

That market is no longer as important to SA as it once was but it remains the local motor industry's third largest destination after the UK and Japan.

Naamsa says President Donald Trump's protectionist bombast has "increased the risk of a global trade war and this could affect international trade flows, including vehicle exports".

-BusinessDay



Bringing leaders together . . . Klaus Schwab

WEF focuses on fixing South Africa's growth

The World Economic Forum (WEF), the international organisation that brings together the globe's most influential business and political leaders at Davos each year, held an extraordinary forum in Johannesburg last week to discuss reconstruction in the post-Zuma era.

Chaired by Klaus Schwab, "the father of multi-lateral stakeholder engagement", it brought together 60 global and South African business leaders, 23 cabinet ministers, top government officials and academics to discuss action in 10 areas of the economy ranging from innovation to regional integration and growth and job creation.

The election of Cyril Ramaphosa in February has clear parallels for Schwab and the WEF community, which see it as their duty to facilitate a new partnership between business and political leaders in the post-Zuma era.

In Johannesburg on Thursday last week Schwab said the forum had been called because Ramaphosa's election warranted special attention.

In recent years the SA brand had suffered, said Schwab.

"The country was not anymore considered in the right terms. There is a great potential to have access to a larger African market. SA over the last 20 years has grown at only an average of 1.5%, which means that the size of the economy doubles only every 50 years. Now, if you look at some of the other African countries growing at 5%, they will double GDP every 14 years. So it's a tremendous difference. Accelerated economic growth is absolutely necessary to solve all the issues like education, healthcare, job creation and so on," he said.

Schwab said he did not want to go into details of the "actionable" proposals that emerged as these must still be discussed with other stakeholders.

Of central importance, however, was the discussion of the fourth industrial revolution and how SA had to prepare itself for the implications, including the possible negative implications of falling behind.

How to improve growth and job creation was also at the top of the list.

The meeting was to some extent "a preparatory meeting" for the Jobs Summit and Investment Summit planned by Ramaphosa later in 2018.

Schwab diagnosed SA's affliction during the Zuma era as similar to a person infected by disease in which the whole body suffered, with the result that it lost its vitality.

"That was the key weakness of SA. There was infighting because there was not anymore a consensus of what has to be achieved. The narrative had become negative.

"This was particularly regrettable because when [Nelson] Mandela came to power there was such a positive narrative about SA," said Schwab.

"Everybody has to share the long-term interest. That is for me the key," he said.

-Businesslive



Bring it on . . . Suspended SARS commissioner Tom Moyane

Moyane's SARS ultimatum to President Ramaphosa

Lawyers acting for suspended SARS commissioner Tom Moyane have demanded in a letter to President Cyril Ramaphosa that he halt or "disestablish" investigations into SARS, saying they expect his reply by today (Fri) at 16:00.

The letter comes after former Judge Robert Nugent, chair of the Ramaphosa-appointed commission of inquiry into governance at the tax agency, dismissed similar requests by Moyane's lawyers.

"The document is a disgrace," said Nugent on Monday.

In a letter addressed to the president, dated Monday July 2, Moyane's lawyers call for either the Nugent commission of inquiry, or Moyane's upcoming internal disciplinary hearing to be halted, saying they should not take place at the same time.

"Our client has sharply raised in both proceedings, the gross unfairness of being simultaneously subjected to both processes when the subject matter enquired into, as it pertains to him, is substantially the same and/or largely overlapping," read the letter from Mabuza Attorneys.

Moyane's legal team also wants Ramaphosa to dismiss Professor Michael Katz from his role as an assistant in the Nugent commission, saying the President and Katz had a "close personal relationship" and Katz had acted for Ramaphosa in the past.

Fin24 could not immediately reach the spokesperson for President Ramaphosa.

Nugent on Monday had dismissed a request to take Katz off the case.

Moyane's lawyers said that, if the President did not they would approach a higher court.

Nugent had been scathing in his reply to a similar letter of demand from Moyane's lawyers, saying it was littered with "abuse, invective and sinister suggestion".

In their letter to Ramaphosa, Moyane's legal team now referred to Nugent's dismissal of their demands as "The Nuremberg Defense", a reference to the trials of ex-Nazi leaders after the second World War.

Moyane was appointed by former president Jacob Zuma in September 2014, replacing acting commissioner at the time, Ivan Pillay. He was suspended by President Cyril Ramaphosa on March 19, 2018. According to the presidency the suspension was "in the interests of restoring credibility at SARS". Mark Kingon took over as acting commissioner of the tax collection agency.

During the Nugent commission's first round of public hearing last week, Moyane was harshly criticised by former SARS employees and officials. As Fin24 reported, witnesses before the commission painted a picture of a tax revenue service that was operating well until Moyane's arrival.

-News24

Nene working to restore Sars credibility

There is nothing more important than stabilising and restoring the South African Revenue Service into an institution that is credible in the eyes of the South African public.

This was said by Finance minister Nhlanelhla Nene on Monday, as he officially opened the tax season for this year.

Nene said that the government had three immediate objectives - to stabilise Sars, restore its credibility and to strengthen its capacity to collect revenue and meet revenue targets.

In this regard, there were two processes currently underway.

The first is the commission of inquiry into tax administration and governance in Sars. The commission was appointed by President Cyril Ramaphosa, and began its hearings last week.

The second was the disciplinary hearing of the Sars Commissioner, a process also that was also driven by the Presidency.

Nene said the ministry of finance and national treasury would continue to work with the revenue service's management team to ensure that the institution stayed the course and delivered on its mandate.

"It is doubtful that there is any single agency in government whose operational performance is more critical to the work of government than Sars.

"It is common knowledge that government would not be able to meet its social objectives without the taxes and other revenues that are collected ... When spent effectively and efficiently, these revenues can contribute to the improvement of the skills and the living standards of fellow South Africans," Nene said, adding that the revenue service needed to do its work without fear, favour or prejudice.

Meanwhile, the inquiry into the revenue service ended its first round last week, but faced some resistance from suspended South African Revenue Services commissioner Tom Moyane, who had attempted to halt the Sars inquiry pending the outcome of the disciplinary



Putting things right . . . Finance minister Nhlanelhla Nene

inquiry into his conduct while at the helm of the organisation.

Nene addressed Sars employees directly, promising that he would do everything in his power to help them do their job.

"I know that you must be very anxious about the processes currently underway regarding the leadership of Sars. All I can promise you is that Sars is too important an institution and we shall do all in our power to ensure that it lives up to its mandate," he pledged.

"From my previous role as both deputy minister and minister, I know how hard you work to serve taxpayers and South Africa in general. I am sure that this year will be no

different. And for that, South Africa owes you a great debt of gratitude."

He also thanked Mark Kingon, who stepped in to fill the commissioner role left vacant by Moyane's suspension, for "holding down the fort and for providing excellent leadership to the men and women of this wonderful organisation."

He said this tax filing season, which kicked off on Monday, wasn't about how much revenue the service would be able to collect.

"It is about compliance. It is about all taxpayers complying with their obligations to submit the returns they are required to submit."

-Citizen



THAPELO MOLEBATS

Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Iran win respect at World Cup

They may have lost - Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Iran - but I dare say the entire globe has a new-found respect for the football in those countries. Not just the football, by the way, but also their courage, commitment and the fearless manner in which they took to the challenge of facing football giants like Portugal, Uruguay and Spain.

Wednesday at Russia 2018 was a day for the underdog. In fact, it has to be said, that this has, so far, been a World Cup studded by performances in which teams regarded as "no-hopers" have risen to the occasion and played out of their skins.

Morocco have been desperately unlucky at this tournament. After losing to a late own goal against Iran, the North Africans outplayed the much-vaunted Cristiano Ronaldo-led Portugal. The Europeans weren't allowed to play as the Moroccans hounded their every move and pressed and harried the man in possession. But, more than that, it was Morocco's work on attack that was impressive; they had chances and, if they'd had more composure in the penalty area, things could've been different.

Iran? Put up your hand if you gave them any chance of coming away with their heads held high against a team as polished and classy as Spain? Okay, my hand is down. But, boy, was this Iranian side good. It wasn't so much their brave and compact defensive work, the best they had to offer was, in fact, when they went 1-0 down. It was then that we saw they could actually play as well - and they had Spain in trouble on numerous occasions.

Unfortunately, and that is what the minnows have to understand about competition at this level, when you get an opportunity, you have to take it: because, if you don't, the opposition will punish you. Iran deserve praise for what they have achieved in Russia - and, at the same time, let's give some applause for the efforts of Coach Carlos Queiroz. As the former Real Madrid coach said afterwards: "We lost 1-0, but we won respect; the players should be proud." Enough said.

Saudi Arabia, after the opening game 5-0 defeat to hosts Russia, were expected to be mere cannon-fodder for a Uruguay side with a strike force as formidable as Luis Suarez and Edinson Cavani. But like so many of the lower-ranked teams have done, the Saudis ripped the script and produced a performance of grit and diligence all over the park. It was admirable stuff, indeed. So, forget that initial fiasco against Russia - chalk it down to opening-day jitters - and let's rather evaluate Saudi Arabia's football on that impressive display against Uruguay.

Each and every one of us has grown up with the fable of Cinderella; the tale of the unappreciated, downtrodden and taken-for-granted step-sister who emerges to become the belle of the ball. It's a fantasy about the romance of courage, belief and the determination to never stop dreaming. We've certainly seen this Cinderella spirit, in spades, at the 2018 World Cup, from Mexico, Iceland, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Senegal. And so, as the tournament winds on, let's hope for much more of the same.



Missing in action ... Free State Stars coach expected to arrive for duties at Stars sometime this week ahead of pre-season.

Something fishy at Stars

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Free State Stars general manager Rantsi Mokoena insists there is nothing untoward about coach Luc Eymael's absence from the team's pre-season camp.

The Belgian tactician is yet to return to the country from holiday in Europe despite the players having started training on Monday.

An odd statement on the club's website earlier in the week read: "Coach Luc Eymael, his staff and the players were in good spirits after returning from their end-of-season break"

Mokoena told The Weekly on Tuesday that Eymael would be back in the country sometime this week.

Eymael has been the subject of speculation in recent months with reports linking him with other PSL clubs.

Mokoena said the club had still not had an offer to buy out the Ea Lla Koto coach from the one-year remaining on his contract.

"It has always been rumours and we have

only read about them in the media. We have a coach; we're happy that he has delivered on his mandate. We cannot focus if he is wanted or whatever," he noted.

In the previous campaign, Stars had their best season in decades after a sixth-place finish in the Premiership and winning the Nedbank Cup.

The Bethlehem-based club will compete in the CAF Confederation Cup in the coming season after winning the R7-million cup last month.

Mokoena said Stars' management were finalising new signings and will make an announcement in the coming days. "Competing in CAF does not mean we need a bigger squad. There is not much to do other than preparing thoroughly.

"We have already made some signings and we will make an announcement once we have completed them. So far though, I am happy with the squad we have," he added.

However, source within the club said though

the coach would return to the club as he still had a year with it, chances of him staying next season were minimal.

"The coach is a very ambitious man. He wants to write his name in history books of South African football and he knows for him to do that he needs to coach the topflight teams in the country, particularly Chiefs or Pirates.

"Yes, what he achieved with us is amazing and will never be forgotten by us as a club but he wants more. Luc wants more than just one trophy and going to a club that is better resourced to give him players that he wants is something that he yearns for. And at this stage, only those big clubs can avail the necessary resources to him to achieve his personal goal. The Chiefs deal might not be sorted or concluded but make no mistake, Luc will not be with us come next season," said the source.

Speaking The Weekly, his agent, Mike Makaab said there was no need for either management and fans to press panic buttons as the coach would be back in

the country this week."

Makaab stated the reason for Luc's absence was due to an eye operation which he (Luc) had undergone a few weeks and therefore needed time to recover.

"The club is well aware of his absence. This was communicated to them much earlier and the assumption was that message would also be communicated to fans as well. There's absolutely no reason for panic buttons to be pressed in this regard," said Makaab in a telephonic interview.

On the issue of continued rumours for his client's services away from the Bethlehem based outfit, Makaab pointed out, "It's much safer to respond to facts than rumours. These rumours have been in the public domain for a while now and we've continued to give clarifications on the very same matter for some time now. Luc remains Stars coach as we've been saying. Anything outside that is really not worth commenting on."



Another tough one.... Teams gear up for this year's Spar championship.

SPAR Netball champions set for Bloemfontein

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

With the Brutal Fruit Netball Premier League done and dusted, it is time for netball fans to turn their attention to the SPAR national championships, which will be played in Bloemfontein from July 9 to 14.

As part of Netball South Africa's (NSA's) aim to take netball back to the people, the championships this year will be played on a district basis, rather than on a provincial basis, as was the case for the past couple of years. More than 1100 players will take part.

"The NSA executive believes that by playing the championships on a districts representation basis, we are able to reach more talented players," vice president Christine du Preez said in statement issued on Tuesday.

"This creates a wider platform for more talented players to be identified."

In past year, the championships have been held in August, which is National Women's

Month, but will be held a month earlier this year.

"Schools and universities are on holiday in July, and this means that teams can stay in school or university hostels," said Du Preez.

"This is a cheaper option for many teams that are cash-strapped. Also because the championships are during the holidays, there are no problems with missing exams or anything like that."

The tournament will be played at the Lotto Young Park netball courts.

A total of 36 U21 teams and 51 senior teams have registered.

SPAR Protea players will also participate at the championships as well as all squad players. The teams will play on a round robin basis before entering the knock-out stages, with the final played on Saturday July 14. There will be two sections, A and B, and the Under-21 championships will be played at the same time.

Last year, Gauteng won the final by one goal in extra time, beating Western Cape 47-46.

I'm calm and focused, maintains Komphela

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Former Kaizer Chiefs coach Steve Komphela remains calm as he begins his tenure as Bloemfontein Celtic coach.

After departing Amakhosi following three seasons without any silverware, Komphela's latest challenge was recently confirmed as he took up the reins at Phunya Sele Sele.

The move has been questioned by many, due to the instability at the club. With financial constraints a severe problem for the club's current owners, it has since been put up for sale.

This decision has been met with grave concern by fans with the province in danger of losing their beloved club if a bid from outside the province is accepted.

But despite the uncertainty, the club were still able to claim a massive coup as they announced the signing of Komphela.

Komphela who has had spells at the likes of Maritzburg United, Free State Stars, Platinum Stars and a short stint as Bafana Bafana interim coach was brought in to replace Serbian

mentor Veselin Jelusic who resigned after he was reportedly not paid his salary.

Nonetheless, much will be expected from Komphela, who turned 51 on July 1.

But the former defender is not getting too ahead of himself and is remaining calm, choosing to focus on the club's preparations ahead of the 2018/19 season.

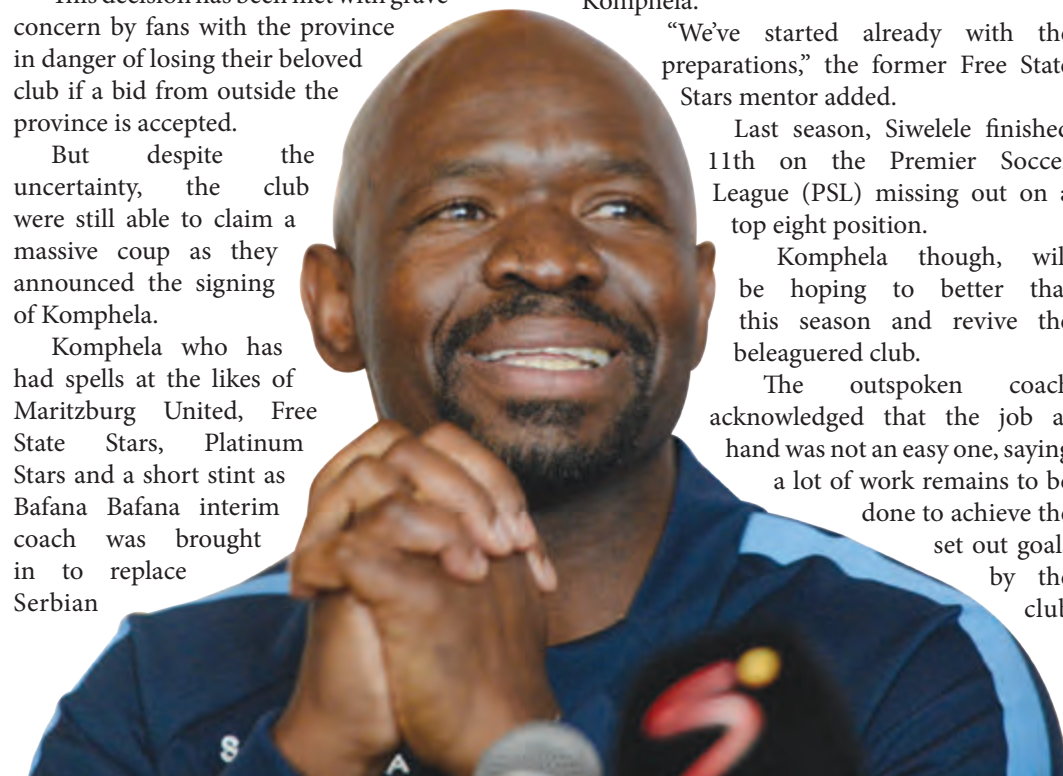
Meanwhile, Celtic have already begun their pre-season and Komphela has wasted no time in bolstering his squad with the addition of midfielder Ryan De Jongh on a three-year-deal. "I can't say I'm excited. But I'm calm," said Komphela.

"We've started already with the preparations," the former Free State Stars mentor added.

Last season, Siwelele finished 11th on the Premier Soccer League (PSL) missing out on a top eight position.

Komphela though, will be hoping to better that this season and revive the beleaguered club.

The outspoken coach acknowledged that the job at hand was not an easy one, saying a lot of work remains to be done to achieve the set out goals by the club



Calm and focused.... Phunya Sele Sele's newly-appointed coach Steve Komphela calm and focused ahead of next season.

Something fishy at Free State Stars

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I'm calm and focused, says Komphela

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sport

FREE STATE KARATEKAS SHINE

These young men have worked hard to reach their status in the sport. They are here not because of transformation in the sport but hard-work, dedication, love and respect for not only the sport but their country, says President of KSA Hashi Sonny Pillay.

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Free State scored big at Karate South Africa (KSA) Awards over the weekend.

Sandile Makwali scooped the Sport Man of the Year Award while Sensei Shine Banyane bagged Coach of the Year Award at a glittering ceremony held at Protea Hotel in Durban.

Both Makwali and Banyane made history by becoming the first black karate athletes to be awarded the respective accolades in the history of KSA.

Makwali who is the head instructor of Heidedal Karate Club, has been Banyane's student for years and has now proven to be his second finest student after Simphiwe August from Thaba Nchu who became the only South African to rank 7th in the world in under 67kg in Serbia back in 2010, a record that remains intact eight years later.

Makwali has been at the peak of his career since 2014, winning crucial medals for the country in major tournaments across the continent. He currently ranks number one in the country in the under 84kg division.

Emerging from the dusty streets of Botshabelo and coached by Banyane, Makwali continues to be feared in his division on the continent.

"If you told me five years ago that I would receive such a prestigious award, or I'd be representing my country in major tournaments not only across Africa but in the world, I would not have believed it. It's a dream to actually be here now let alone win the award," said a delighted Makwali.

The tall, soft spoken karateka said beyond medal and accolades, representing his country and donning the green and white jacket has been his biggest achievements.

Makwali noted his journey to where he is today has not been easy as he had to fight a lot

of obstacles, both personal and in the sport, due to the colour of his skin.

"Those who know me will tell you that the journey has not been an easy one but the support I've received from both my family and coach Banyane - who has been part of the journey as a friend and mentor from day - one made all the difference. I am what I am today because he never stopped believing in me and my ability," Makwali added.

Another deserving accolade went to Maxine Williams from Cape Town, who scooped the Sport Woman of the Year award.

Sensei Banyane will lead Karate Team USSA (Universities Sport South Africa) to World Universities Championships in Japan from 16-25 July.

The announcement means the Black Cheetah as Banyane is affectionally known in the sport becomes the first black coach from KSA to lead the USSA team to the world tournament.

Speaking to The Weekly, KSA president Hashi Sonny Pillay said, "It was not difficult selecting sports man and coach of the year awards as they have proven themselves over the year. It was an easy decision for the committee to make."

Pillay, who since his tenure as KSA president has been lauded for turning the sport around, ensuring that it becomes inclusive, expressed delight in the achievements of the two athletes from the Free State.

"These young men have worked hard to reach their current status in the sport," said Pillay, who added he was still looking forward to the duo progressing further in the physically demanding sport.

Both Makwali and Black Cheetah are expected to do wonders at the Africa Cup scheduled for August in Rwanda and the Karate Commonwealth Games. The games will be held in South Africa, Durban later in November.



KSA makes history... Sandile Makwali and Sensei Shine Banyane honoured at the recent KSA Awards held in Durban over the weekend.

With a demanding schedule ahead, Pillay said the two athletes' character will once again be tested as they lead team South African to the Senior World Cup in Spain in November.

"Their entire lives have been a test of character. We've seen this over the years and they come out tops every time. Their hard-work accompanied with heart and determination is the reason behind their success," Pillay noted.

Reflecting on his lifetime moment, Banyane said, "I didn't expect it as many athletes in SA have performed extremely well myself included. It's an honor to break the barrier which black athletes continue to face despite their talent and open doors for up and coming athletes to enter the sport and be judged not according to the color of the skin, but their talent and contribution."

The Black Cheetah also expressed happiness following Makwali's achievement. "This will change his life forever. It will afford him a chance to make life for himself and his family while also growing in the sport. He's an outstanding athlete and more is to come out of him. His love and commitment for the sport and heart to be the best is amazing."

SA bids to host netball World Cup



Netball South Africa (NSA) aims to take on the world come 2023 in what would be a historic World Cup in the history of the sport in the country.

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Netball South Africa are bidding to host the 2023 World Cup in what would be a historic first for the sport in South Africa and Africa.

Four-time world champions, New Zealand are also bidding to host - for the fourth time.

The 2023 World Cup bid estimate 120 000 additional visitors to the South African host city

because of the prestigious tournament, which translates to a financial injection more than R2.5 billion to the country's economy.

The 16-team tournament is hosted in one city, with the competition not exceeding 10 playing days. It features 60 matches that will be broadcast live globally.

Cape Town, because of its international tourism status, has been identified as prime host

city option but NSA chief executive Blance de la Guerre said the bid team was in discussion with representatives of all South Africa's major cities.

"It's a bid that has got so much potential that extends beyond the sport because it is one that speaks to South Africa and by extension Africa, where netball has a massive participation and audience following. It speaks to the excellence in women's sport and further celebrates women in society," said De la Guerre in a statement issued on Wednesday.

"We had discussions with all the provinces to explain the bid. We had to be sure the appetite for the potential host city candidates matched ours to host a World Cup because without the city, provincial and government support, it would be impossible to host the sport's biggest event.

"The enthusiasm certainly is there provincially, and our presentation to the government will hopefully prove appealing and inspiring," she said.

NSA president Cecilia Molokwane was instrumental in the campaign to take netball back to the people. The president was also on the forefront of the 'Fill up Ellis Park' drive, which led to a sold-out Ellis Park Arena for the Quad Series earlier this year.

Molokwane said South Africa has illustrated by the hosting of the Soccer World Cup, the Cricket World Cup and the Rugby World Cup, along with the African Cup of Nations and

many other international tours, that it was the ideal sporting destination.

"South Africa has a magnificent track record when it comes to big sporting events, but this is also allowing us to be a leader in South Africa and Africa with the hosting of a sporting World Cup that focuses on women in sport," noted Molokwane.

It goes without saying that netball, as a sporting code has made massive strides in the country in the last five years, and the establishment of the Brutal Fruit League first hosted in Bloemfontein, Free State in 2017 and this year Johannesburg has strengthened the quality of SA's national squad.

The Premier League involves 10 teams from nine provinces, with Free State Crinums the only team to win the competition three times (2014, 2015 and 2016) and Gauteng Jaguars twice (2017 and 2018).

South African's national team, the Proteas, consolidated their fifth place in world ranking this year. Last year they beat and drew with Commonwealth champions England. They also came within a few points of causing a stunning upset against Australia and New Zealand earlier in the year.

The World Cup bids were officially handed in last month and the winning host city will be announced in April 2019.

SA's Anderson through to third round of Wimbledon

SA's Kevin Anderson beat Italian Andreas Seppi 6-3 6-7 6-3 6-4 in the second round of the men's draw of Wimbledon in London on Thursday.

With the rain-interrupted match running over two days starting on Wednesday, the eighth-seeded Anderson started strongly winning over 80 percent of points on his first serve, as he claimed the first set 6-3 with just the one break of serve.

Seppi hit back to take the second set to a tiebreak, and claimed the breaker 7-5.

In the third set, Anderson broke in the eighth game to go 5-3 up. Serving for the set, Anderson went 40-0 up before his opponent fought back to 40-30. It was then that Anderson pulled out a strong second serve down the middle which Seppi mis-timed back into the net to conclude the set.

With the players locked at 1-1 in the fourth set, rain started to fall which forced the players off the court. They would only resume the next day on Thursday morning, and in the fifth game Anderson found the crucial break of serve.

At 5-4 up, Anderson duly served to love to take the set 6-4 and entry into the third round.

African News Agency (ANA)