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**ANC CAUCUS WELCOMES
THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO
FEMALE GBV COMMISSIONERS**

**REMARKS BY
ANC CAUCUS
CHIEFWHIP & CHAIR**

**CAUCUS
PERIOD**



**ANC CAUCUS CHIEFWHIP
CDE PEMMY MAJODINA**

**ANC CAUCUS CHAIR
CDE SEISO MOHAI**

PLEDGE TO END GBV

PCOs

RAILWAY SAFETY BILL

2021 BUDGET

CONTENTS

NEWS

- 08 ANC CHIEFWHIP CDE PEMMY MAJODINA REFLECTS ON PAP SESSION
- 11 APPOINTMENT OF 2 FEMALE COMMISSIONERS
- 15 NA HAS PASSED 3 GBV BILLS

TRENDS

- 20 HONOURABLE PEMMY MAJODINA ON AU'S SUSPENSION OF MALI



FEATURES

DEBATE ON VOTE 1 PRESIDENCY



SPOTLIGHT

FATIMA CHOCHAN AND PHILILE NTULI

Have been appointed to serve on Gender Based Commission

TRENDS

ANC CHIEFWHIP SUFFERED GBV AT PAP
ANC Women's League marched to the PAP session following the Gender Based Violence suffered by Cde Pemmy Majodina



TIPS

STAY AT HOME AND BE SAFE

Covid-19 third wave



PROFILE

KNOW YOUR ANC MP'S

We talk to our leaders



ANC CAUCUS WELCOMES THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO SAHRC WOMEN COMMISSIONERS AND THE PASSING OF THREE CRUCIAL BILLS TO FIGHT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The ANC Parliamentary Caucus welcomes the appointment of Ms Philile Ntuli and Ms Fatima Chohan as full-time commissioners in the South African Human Rights Commission for a period of seven years.

The appointment of Ms Ntuli and Ms Chohan was recommended by the Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services after the committee was requested by the SAHRC to initiate a process to fill the vacancies arising from the expiry of Commissioner MS Ameerma's term of office and after the passing away of Deputy Chairperson, P Jana. The committee undertook a rigorous recruitment, shortlisting and interviewing process and agreed that Ms Ntuli and Ms Chohan are suitable candidates to fill the vacancies.

We welcome the appointment of these two female Commissioners in the Chapter 9 Institution and believe that they will be of great value to the Institution. We further appreciate the recognition of female leaders as critical role players in the transformation of our country

The National Assembly has also today, 3 June 2021, passed three crucial pieces of legislation that are aimed at fighting Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, namely; The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act Amendment Bill (B16-2020); The Domestic Violence Amendment Bill (B20-2020); and the Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Bill (B17-2020). The adoption of these important Bills is a milestone for South Africa as the country is continuously faced with the scourge of gender-based violence and femicide. This also comes at a time where the effects of Covid-19 and lockdown has increased the

number of GBV&F incidents and the use of technology, which has been taken into consideration in the amendment of these bills, will greatly assist South Africans to access legal assistance without having to be physically present in police stations and courts. These Bills will ensure that the rights and lives of women, children, the LGBTQIA+ community and the society at large, are protected and perpetrators of these gruesome crimes are served with befitting sentences.

1. The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act Amendment Bill

1. The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act Amendment Bill. This Amendment Bill seeks to amend the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2007, so as to extend the ambit of the offence of incest; introduce a new offence of sexual intimidation, further regulate the inclusion of particulars of persons in the National Register for Sex Offenders and extend the list of persons who are to be protected in terms of Chapter 6 of the Act. It further seeks to extend the list of persons who are entitled to submit applications to the Registrar of the National Register for Sex Offenders and further regulate the removal of particulars of persons from the National Register for Sex Offenders. The adoption of this Bill reiterates the resolve taken by government to have legislation that protects the rights and dignity of sexual offence victims and survivors and ensures that justice is served. It also provides legal grounds for any person that witnesses or believes such offence is taking place, to report the incident to the police, failing which, they may be found guilty. This will give effect to the work of the Sexual Offences Courts and contribute positively in the prosecution and conviction of sexual offenders.

2. The Domestic Violence Amendment Bill (B20-2020)

The Domestic Violence Amendment Bill seeks to amend the Domestic Violence Act, 1998 so as to provide for the manner in which acts of domestic violence and matters related thereto must be dealt with, to further regulate protection orders in response to acts of domestic violence and amend provisions of certain laws.

This Amendment Bill will provide for easier access for those intending to obtain protection orders to access them through the internet. The amendments will expand the scope of the definition of domestic violence, which will greatly contribute to the change in behaviour that is needed in our families and society.

3. Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Bill (B17-2020)

The Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Bill seeks to amend; the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1944, so as to provide for the appointment of intermediaries and the giving of evidence through intermediaries in proceedings other than criminal proceedings and the giving of evidence through audio-visual link in proceedings other than criminal proceedings.





SEPHADI

REMARKS BY ANC CHIEFWHIP HONOURABLE PEMMY MAJODINA

**UMKHOMBANDLELA,
SIHAMBA NGOLAYINI**

Today, Friday 4 June 2021, marks an end to a hectic Second Parliamentary Term, one filled with endless days of oversight and drafting of legislation. The second term also comes to an end at a time when the country is faced with a looming third wave of Covid-19 and as we are about to begin the Constituency Period, I urge all of us to be precautionous to mitigate the spread of Covid-19.

We further end this term with the adoption of The Special Appropriation Bill and the Appropriation Bill, which were tabled by the Minister of Finance Cde Tito Mboweni in the National Assembly earlier today. These bills are adopted in a period where our fiscus is constrained due to the economic impact that emanated from the Covid-19 pandemic and certain adjustments had to be made to accommodate critical and urgent needs and stabilize the country.



ANC CHIEFWHIP HON. PEMMY MAJODINA

We applaud the Treasury, Finance and Appropriations committees for their tremendous work and have faith that the measures taken will help develop our economy and assist the country on its path to recovery.

I wish to thank all ANC Members of Parliament for their continued commitment and efforts during the first and second terms of Parliament this year. Despite challenges faced and having to adapt to a "new normal", we managed to carry on with the work that has been entrusted to us by the people of South Africa.

REFLECTIONS ON THE 1ST AND 2ND TERMS



Deputy President
Cde David Mabuza



Deputy Chief Whip
Cde Doris Dlakude



Comrade
Thoko Didiza



Comrade
Fikile Mbalula

National Assembly, 02 June 2021 @ 14h00 Live on Channel 408



Cde Prof
Hlengiwe Mkhize



Cde Khumbuzho
Ntshavheni



Comrade
Mankwana Papo



Comrade
Dibolelo Mahlatsi



Comrade



ANC
PARLIAMENT



Comrade



Cde Chana

These past few months have been filled with various areas of work for MPs, including but not limited to;

- Public Hearings on the Amendment of Section 25.
- Public Hearings on the Expropriation Bill.
- Finalisation and passing of crucial legislation.
- Filling of vacancies in critical government institutions.
- Daily portfolio committees and study groups holding officials to account.
- Debates on various subject matters that are critical to the development and transformation of South Africa.

It was also during the 1st Constituency period that MPs conducted oversight visits in schools, healthcare facilities, SOEs and Constituency Offices to ensure governance and adherence to Covid-19 regulations. Members were also actively on the ground during by-elections, mobilizing, assisting in the registration process and educating the masses on Covid-19 to dispel all myths about the virus. For this, I commend the dedication demonstrated by ANC MPs, you have shown resilience, love and a fighting spirit to serve the masses.

During this period, we have also lost many of our colleagues, many of whom died with their boots on. As we end the 2nd term, we lower our banners in fond memories of our late comrades, namely:

Cde Nombulelo Hermans

Cde Jackson Mthembu

Cde Tozama Priscilla Mantashe

Cde Jacqueline Motlagomang Mofokeng

Cde Tshoganetso Mpho Adolphina Tongwane.

The passing of our beloved Comrades robbed the ANC Caucus and South Africa of truly committed, humble servants of the people. Their memories will always be a reminder that, as MPs, we are not done with serving the people until our last days on earth.

In May, South Africa also observed the 25th Anniversary of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, which is marked as a national compact. We commemorated this occasion, not just as an irrational attachment to anniversaries, but to demonstrate the continuity of our struggle and underline the values of our movement, which are; Humility; Selflessness; and Integrity. This is an important milestone in the history of our country, especially because our Constitution is regarded as one of the most progressive in the world. The Constitution is therefore a national compact among the people of South Africa to live with one another in one indivisible state. This Constitution and strong formal and informal checks and balances on all the institutions of the state and private sector, including a robust legal framework, an independent Judiciary, Chapter 9 institutions, active civil society and a free press, underpin our democracy.

Constitutions usually have civil and political rights – the right to life, vote, a fair trial, freedom of expression, religion and association, and other individual rights, which are referred to as “first generation” rights. Socio-economic rights are the rights to food, water, land, housing, health services, education and the other basic material needs that human beings need to survive. These are referred to as “second generation” rights. So, it wasn't just the wisdom of the legislators and the legal experts that enshrined socio-economic rights in the Constitution. It was also the outcome of the heroic mass struggles and the nature of the class alliances that led it. Aspects of the socio-economic rights were there in the ANC's 1943 Africans' Claims document and the 1955 Freedom Charter. It is therefore why we need to move faster on implementing the socio-economic rights in the constitution. This is going to be especially challenging given the major economic, financial and Covid crisis confronting us. But, if we don't address the material needs of the poor and disadvantaged and reduce the widening inequalities, we are going to be far worse off.



CONSTITUENCY PERIOD 7 JUNE - 16 AUGUST



The 2nd Constituency Period begins on Monday, I therefore implore all Comrades to take heed of the tasks ahead. As we head towards 2021 Local Government Elections, we need to be mindful of how we manage our own internal contradictions as an organisation during this period, this is going to play a very decisive role on how South Africans vote. How we deal with all these challenges that face our country is indeed a decisive factor that will determine whether the African National Congress remains the party of choice embedded in the hearts of the people. This is critically so in a situation where the dominant perception about this mass party of revolution, the African National Congress, is that it has gravitated from its core revolutionary values and traditions.

It is therefore imperative that we conduct ourselves in a manner that is respectful, demonstrates our commitment to the mandate given by the masses and promotes unity and working together to better the lives of our people.

Our focus areas will also be on the following:

Organisational work of Branches BBGMs, BGMs, Sub Regions, Zones and Regions.

Popularising of new demarcation of wards for 27 October Local Government Elections.

By-Elections scheduled for 23rd June 2021.

ID Smart Card drive for potential voters.

Mobilization of voter registration weekend on the 17th and 18th July 2021.

School visits to assess effective teaching and learning, as well as to mobilise high schools learners for smart card IDs.

On-going awareness programmes on Fridays on Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF).

Public Awareness on vaccine rollout programme and dispel myths about the vaccine.

Bullying in society in general and schools in particular.

Awareness on Public Hearings on Children's Act, Expropriation of Land Bill and National Health Insurance Bill.

All the best to our comrades in the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) who will be continuing with their programme of work until the middle of August 2021.

As Chief Whip, I urge all of you comrades to soldier on and serve South Africans to the best of your abilities. May we continue to stay safe and adhere to the Covid-19 safety measures such as washing hands frequently (or use hand sanitizer), wearing a mask, and social distancing.



REMARKS BY THE CHAIR OF CAUCUS COMRADE SEISO MOHAI



ANC CAUCUS CHAIRPERSON CDE SEISO MOHAI

Good morning comrades, allow me to welcome you to our first Caucus after a long and engaging constituency period during the Covid-19 pandemic. A special welcome to the President of the ANC Comrade Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa who is going to address this Caucus today. This is in keeping with our agreement in the last Caucus that the President will be invited to our first Caucus after the constituency period. As comrades may be aware, the constituency period we are emerging from was the most difficult for the African National Congress as the people's vanguard for the victory of our national democratic revolution in many fronts.

This constituency period has exposed most of us to the glaring poverty, unemployment and inequality that confront most of our people. This has obviously been made worse by the persistence of the Covid19 pandemic.

The pandemic has imposed devastating miseries on the poor and the working class in this country. In this regard, the swift interventions made by our government have certainly restored confidence of the overwhelming majority of our people in the democratic state led by the African National Congress.

However, our government must be alive to a possibility for some people to make demands to bring permanency of all the temporary socio-economic relief measures imposed in response to the Covid19 pandemic. Comrades these demands would be legitimate and justified considering the dire socio-economic conditions that beset our people.

How we deal with all these challenges that face our country is indeed a decisive factor that will determine whether the African National Congress remains the party of choice embedded in the hearts of the people. This is critically so in a situation where the dominant perception about this mass party of revolution, the African National Congress, is that it has gravitated from its core revolutionary values and traditions.

We also enter this second quarter after the President announced the date for the local government elections which will determine whether our people still have confidence in the movement as the leader of society. How we manage our own internal contradictions as an organisation during this period is going to play a very decisive role.

Condolences to the Royal Family



Drive Thru Memorial Service & Funeral Service of Cde Jacqui Mofokeng & Daughter, Thato Mofokeng



DRIVE THRU

MONDAY - 26 APRIL 2021
9H00-14H00 (CENTURION)
TSHWANE

FUNERAL SERVICE

TUESDAY - 27 APRIL 2021
8H00-10H00 @ METHODIST
CHURCH
(CENTURION)TSHWANE



Comrades we may also be aware that media reports in the recent past were dominated by allegations of conflict of interest and improper conduct on the part of the Chief Whip of the Majority Party, Comrade Pemmy Majodina.

As the leadership of Caucus, we have received a briefing from the Chief Whip regarding these reported allegations. In terms of this briefing, the following issues are worth noting:

- The Chief Whip undertook to present herself to the Integrity Commission of the ANC and she has indeed appeared before the Commission in terms of the report we received;
- At this stage, the leadership of Caucus has not yet been briefed about the outcomes of this process;
- We are awaiting further directives from the Integrity Commission through the SGO to advise us further on this matter.

As we enter the 2nd quarter, we lower our banners in fond memories of many comrades who succumbed to death during the constituency period. We extend our special condolences to the family of Comrade Jackie Mofokeng who passed immediately after losing her daughter. We also bow in honor of Comrade Elizabeth Thabethe, the former MP and Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry who passed on recently. We rise in solidarity with the Zulu Kingdom that has suffered the loss of the Regent, Queen Mantfombi Zwelitheni who recently succumbed to untimely death a short period after the passing of iSilo King Zwelithini.

Comrades, on this note please allow me to invite President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa to address us.

I thank you



**MOTION CALLING FOR THE WAIVER OF SPECIFIC TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS RELATING TO MANUFACTURING OF COVID 19 VACCINES
AND RELATED DRUGS**

Mr President,

I hereby, in terms of Rule 61, give the following notice of motion:

That this House –

Notes with deep concern that the devastation effect caused by the global pandemic of COVID 19 did not only result in the loss of millions of lives across the globe, but it has caused iimmense damage to the economic and social stability in the developing countries such as the AU Member States in particular; Further notes with deep concern that if not properly addressed, the social and eeconomic effect of the Corona Virus may result in the increase of extremism, violent protests, instability and unconstitutional change of governments as such governments will be unable to meet iitsa social and economic obligations to its citizens;Cognisant of the existence of the World Trade Organization's Intellectual Property restrictions in the manufacturing of COVID 19 related drugs and vaccines; Acknowledging with great appreciation and support South Africa and India's proposal that the World Trade Organisation should consider to waive specific Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) obligations related to the manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines in order to enable countries to manufacture their vaccines to save human lives; Supporting fully South Africa and India's call for the World Trade Organization to waive specific Trade-Related Aspects of intellectual Property Rights in order to enable the locally manufacturing of COVID 19 drugs and related vaccines which will not only enable speedy ccess of local manufactured vaccines and enable reasonable prices; Further noting that this call is now being supported by more than hundred global countries, including the United States of America (USA); Further call upon all the AU Member States to support this call as an effective and reasonable response to the devastating scourge of Corona Virus to save millions of lives; Therefore, call upon this House to debate and support the call for the WTO to waive specific Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights to enable the local manufacturing of COVID 19 vaccines and drugs to save human lives;

Honourable President, I beg to move.



MOTION CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE END OF TERRORISM IN MOZAMBIQUE

Mr President,
I hereby, in terms of Rule 61, give the following notice of motion:
That this House –
Notes that the ongoing cruel and barbaric Islamist attacks in the Northern Province of Cabo Delgado in Mozambique, which includes barbaric and cruel beheading of innocent civilians has had a devastating effect not only to the ordinary citizens of Cabo Delgado, but it has profound lasting negative effect to Mozambique, the Southern Africa Region and the African Continent as a whole;
Deeply concerned that the ongoing terrorist attacks has not only displaced thousands of citizens and undermined any social and economic activities as well as human rights violations in the Region;

Concerned that the biggest victims of the ongoing violent and barbaric attacks in Cabo Delgado are women, children and people with disabilities;
Further deeply concerned that these barbaric extremists seem to be well-financially resourced, well-equipped and intelligence savvy;





MOTION CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE END OF TERRORISM IN MOZAMBIQUE

Acknowledging the efforts of the Southern Africa Developing Community Heads of States to help Mozambique repel these violence extremists in Cabo Delgado and to help Mozambique find the lasting peace; Noting that the terrorist attacks in Mozambique is not an isolated incident as it is adding to a number of terrorist attacks in countries such as Nigeria, Libya, Somalia, Kenya, Chad, Cameroon and Mali just to mention a few;

Deeply concerned that despite the increasing extremist attacks in the Member States, the African Union doesn't seem to have a comprehensive continental wide strategy to deal with terrorism and extremism in the Continent;

Extremely concerned that if not properly dealt with, the increasing terrorist attacks in the AU Member States will have great negative effect in the implementation and achievement of AU's Agenda 2063 such as the free movement of people and goods;

Calling upon the African Union to urgently develop a continental-wide strategy and common position on how to deal with the increasing terrorist and extremism attacks in Member States;

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION BILL



FINANCE MINISTER: HON. TITO MBOWENI

BRIEFING DOCUMENT: Special Appropriation Bill [B5 – 2021]

The Special Appropriation Bill [B5 – 2021] was introduced by the Minister in the National Assembly in February 2021. The object of the Bill is to appropriate additional funds to the Departments of Health and Social Development, and to effect an adjustment in the Public Enterprises budget vote.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

An amount of R2.826 billion is appropriated Social Development in order to fund the extension of the Special COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress Grant. Public Enterprises.

An amount of R2.7 billion is adjusted from the funds appropriated for the business rescue plan of South African Airways (SAA). The funds are allocated to the three subsidiaries of SAA.

SAA Technical will receive R1.66 billion, Mango Airlines receives R819 million, Air Chefs gets R218 million.

HEALTH

An amount of R1.25 billion is allocated to the Department of Health to combat Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases and to fund oversight to all public entities in the sector and statutory health professional councils in South Africa. From this amount, R150 million will fund the South African Medical Research Council for its COVID-19 vaccine work.

SASSA
How to apply for COVID-19
R350 Social Relief Grant

STAY HOME
SAVE SOUTH AFRICA

1 Who can apply?	2 What you need?	3 Apply via...
An unemployed person Must be over 18 years old Not receiving social grants, UIF OR NSFAS stipend	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identity DocumentBanking detailsContact Number – Cellphone numberProof of residential address	<div> Send message 082 046 8553</div> <div> USSD Code: *134*7737#</div> <div> Email: srd@sassa.gov.za</div>

Payments will be made through direct deposits into bank accounts or a money transfer to a mobile phone.

WHATSAPP SUPPORT
600 123 456
EMERGENCY NUMBER
800 029 999
coronavirus.co.za

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



2021 BUDGET

The Budget is a reflection and expression of Government Policy and a critical mechanism used to address the needs of the people and finance the Constitutional responsibilities that government has to fulfil. The Budget provides a means to redistribute resources and wealth in addressing poverty and inequality in the country. The 2021 Budget is premised on four main areas: fighting corruption; fighting the COVID-19 pandemic; economic recovery reforms and the constitutional obligations that the Republic has. The choices in Budget 2021 are informed by what the Constitution mandates and the Executive have to progressively realise and by the ANC's Election Manifesto mandate. These choices are also exercised within what the National Fiscus can resource and for 2021 this has had a major influence.

The 2021 Budget deals with the reality of the impact of Covid-19 on the economy. In this regard it emphasises short term direct support to the economy with sustainability for the medium term. In this regard the Budget supports economic activity.

In protecting the immediate needs of the nation and frontline workers in the Public Service, the Budget provides R10B for the purchase of vaccines and R2.4 billion allocated to provincial departments of health to administer the Covid-19 vaccine programme. Significantly and mindful of possible mutations that may lie ahead the Contingency Reserve has been increased from R5B to R12 B for future emergencies.

In protecting the immediate needs of the nation and frontline workers in the Public Service, the Budget provides R10B for the purchase of vaccines and R2.4 billion allocated to provincial departments of health to administer the Covid-19 vaccine programme. Significantly and mindful of possible mutations that may lie ahead the Contingency Reserve has been increased from R5B to R12 B for future emergencies.

Tax increase have been kept to a minimum mindful of the impact of Covid on the economy and how this has impacted upon the employed.

In response to the impact of Covid-19 and how it has exposed the reality of South African society, the total consolidated spending of R2 trillion each year, over the 3- year medium expenditure framework.

In terms of support for the poor, 57% of the total expenditure of Budget 2021 goes towards social services.

Budget 2021 responds to the structural reform agenda, as articulated in the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan, which is aimed at removing obstacles to economic growth. Operation Vulindlela working with relevant departments seeks to change the regulatory framework and systems in the economy, by broadening ownership patters, by lowering barriers to entry, by raising productivity and by lowering the cost of doing business.

With regards economic growth and development, this remains a concern. Any recovery is on the back of a -7,2% decline of 2020 and therefore the 3,3% predicted for 2021, whilst welcome, is a reminder that it is estimated that it will take probably until the first quarter of 2023 to get back to the point where we were before Covid-19 in terms of growth.

The solution lies in government stimulating the demand side of the economy, the private sector responding to this, and consumption side of the economy growing, increasing revenue, creating jobs and producing a more virtuous cycle.

We welcome the commitment in the Budget to employment. R83.2 Billion goes to public employment programmes and R11B for Presidential Youth Employment Initiative. This is critical in addressing unemployment and it also builds the demand side of the economy which has its own positive knock-on effects.

On agrarian transformation, the Budget puts aside R9.3 Billion for land restitution to deal with for over 1,400 claims and R896m for the post settlement support programme. In addition, the inclusion in the recruitment of approximately 10 000 experienced extension officers will positively contribute to support to farmers, both emerging and established. The oversight work of the ANC in Parliament has called for the Land Bank to be restructured and given a developmental mandate. The Budget in addressing this allocates R7 billion which is meant to sort out its current default and put it on a developmental mandate. This will require restructuring at the Land Bank.

2021 BUDGET

"Budget 2021 responds to the structural reform agenda, as articulated in the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan, which is aimed at removing obstacles to economic growth. Operation Vulindlela working with relevant departments seeks to change the regulatory framework and systems in the economy, by broadening ownership patterns, by lowering barriers to entry, by raising productivity and by lowering the cost of doing business."

With regards local economic development Budget 2021 supports townships and rural enterprises through an extra R4B.

The ongoing commitment in Budget 2021 to infrastructure expenditure reflects major support to the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan. ANC Parliamentary oversight work has revealed that much of the infrastructure that supports the economy requires maintenance and replacement. The Budget responds to this in committing R791 billion in an infrastructure investment programme. The private sector is part of this rollout of the infrastructure initiative.

In all R6.2 trillion spending over the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework gives expression to the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan.

With regards taxation, the Budget supports economic recovery, by not raising any additional taxes in this budget. The personal income tax brackets and rebates both increase above the inflation rate of 4%, at 5%, with R2,2B tax relief on lower and middle-income groups. This is relief for the employed and money into the pockets of the employed.

With regards social security support, R3,5B goes to Provinces to improve access to early childhood development services.

There has been support expressed for the R6.3 billion allocated to extend the special Covid-19 social relief of distress grant until the end of April 2021 as well as R678.3 million earmarked for provincial departments of social development and basic education to continue rolling out free sanitary products for learners from low-income households.

education to continue rolling out free sanitary products for learners from low-income households.

On tackling corruption, the ANC Caucus welcomed SARS, SARB and the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) working jointly on combating criminal and illicit cross-border activities through an inter-agency working group. The result of the work of the ANC initiated Parliamentary process in 2016, through the Finance Committee, on transfer pricing and illegal tax base erosion, can be seen today reflected in increased customs and excise operations reducing the illicit movement of goods across borders, tackling transfer pricing and tax base erosion.

On local government, the Municipal Systems Improvement Grant is extended for the rollout of the District Development Model.

On NASFAS, National Treasury is working with the Department of Higher Education on policy and funding options that will be detailed in the 2021 MTBPS.

On the finalisation of the Public Procurement Bill, National Treasury is fast tracking the Bill as an important intervention to address fragmentation in procurement legislation and it is anticipated that it will be tabled in Parliament before the end of 2021.



Eskom

ESKOM

ITS ROLE AND PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AND RECOVERY

BY CDE JUDITH TSHABALALA
WHIP OF THE STUDY GROUP ON PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

WHAT WENT WRONG?

In October 2007, South Africa experienced rolling blackouts or what later became known as “load shedding”. Eskom – South Africa’s public power utility – began to turn off electricity to areas throughout the country. The national electricity grid almost crashed. The big question in the minds of South Africans was: what went wrong? Eskom had for many years been regarded as one of the leading power utilities in the world. As recently as 2001, Eskom won the Financial Times Global Power Company of the Year Award for its technical excellence in plant production, maintenance and operation. Six years after receiving this award, disaster struck.

The answer to the question of what went wrong was partially answered in 2008. In a candid admission of a serious error of judgement, South Africa’s former President Thabo Mbeki said:

“When Eskom said to the government: ‘we think we should invest more in terms of electricity generation’, we said no, all you will be doing is just to build excess capacity. We said not now, later. We were wrong. Eskom was right. We were wrong.”

President Mbeki was acknowledging the failure of the government to act on the recommendations made by Eskom and the Department of Minerals and Energy. The department’s white paper on energy published in December 1998 made the following crucial recommendations:

□ The next decision on securing new electricity generation capacity would have to be taken by the end of 1999 to ensure that the electricity needs of the next decade would be met.

ESKOM



□ Eskom needed be restructured into separate generation and transmission companies, in line with international industry trends. Unfortunately, the decision to add new generation capacity was taken in 2004 and the separation of Eskom into three companies (“unbundling”) was formalised in 2019. In the decade of the 2000s, Eskom went from being one of the top power utilities in the world with excess generation capacity, to one experiencing chronic shortages of supply. In spite of this, by the end of the decade, Eskom still had a stronger credit rating than the sovereign, and it could borrow more cheaply.

The democratic government delivered its first two new power stations – Medupi and Kusile in 2007. The implementation of these two major build projects led to huge cost overruns owing to poor project management and financial mismanagement. As a result, Eskom incurred a debt liability which is currently about R480 billion.

A relatively small but significant portion of the debt is as a result of monies owed to Eskom by large commercial customers and municipalities. Eskom will continue to face financial challenges until there is a reduction in the debt liability.

In the decade from 2009 to 2019, Eskom had 12 chief executive officers, six board chairpersons, 60 directors, and 30 executives. The salaries and allowances of these individuals cost the company a whopping R514 million. This was the period in which the phenomenon of state capture was reported to be most prevalent in SOE’s.

State capture was the subject of the investigation by the former Public Protector who produced the report titled “The State of Capture” in 2016. The observations made in the report led to the resignation of the former Group CEO of Eskom. This was followed in 2017 by parliament’s oversight inquiry led by the Portfolio Committee on Public Enterprises. The inquiry also made strong findings and recommendations on Eskom’s board, executives and private companies that were implicated. Currently the details of the story of Eskom’s capture are being revealed in painful detail at the Zondo Commission, the period of state capture and corruption Eskom was negatively affected at all levels of the electricity value chain. Coal supply was not always reliable and the cost of coal was not market related as Eskom was forced by suppliers to pay a



GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE TO RESOLVE ESKOM CHALLENGE

As the Study Group of the ANC, we are firm in our commitment to maintain robust oversight and to root out any remnants of corruption and state capture in our SOE's. We are encouraged by the actions taken by the law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute those accused of wrongdoing without fear or favour. Furthermore, Eskom has been recovering money from contractors that have unduly benefited from Eskom's contractors. Life style audit and investigations are on-going on Eskom employees.

Both the legislature and executive have committed itself to the restoration of Eskom to financial and operational viability.

ESKOM HOLDS THE KEYS TO THE GROWTH OF THE ECONOMY

In recent years, there has been much focus on Eskom in relation to load shedding, challenges of corporate governance and issues flowing from state capture and corruption. This focus becomes more pronounced as the power utility released its annual financial report in the midst of load shedding.

The focus on Eskom is justified because, according to some estimates from a UCT study, a fully functional Eskom would have added at least 1% per annum to South Africa's GDP and created thousands of jobs. In spite of these challenges, Eskom remains by far the largest supplier of electricity on the African Continent and one of the largest in the world.

In the 2019 Budget, Eskom received an annual inflation-adjusted R23-billion every year over the next 10 years, and a special appropriation of R56-billion over two years to help Eskom pay off the debt.

The reality right now is that Eskom is incapable of meeting the electricity demands of the economy. Eskom has asked for tariff increases of about triple the inflation rate.

These will most definitely stifle our economic reconstruction and growth prospects. All stakeholders need to explore different alternatives to this challenge.

President Cyril Ramaphosa has committed government to restoring corporate governance and ensuring plant reliability and reducing outages at Eskom. At the same time the President announced the further acquisition of renewable energy through IPP's would be brought onstream to increase generation to meet the demands in the economy.

The development of Green Energy through renewable energy systems is part of the global commitment to the Paris Agreement of developing cleaner energy sources and reduction in carbon emissions. Green energy provides industrialisation opportunities for the country and new job opportunities. This is the key to energy security and also enables the restructuring of Eskom whilst reducing load shedding. However, the IPP's can only supply up to 30% of the country's electricity demand and the bulk of the supply will still come from Eskom through other energy sources based on the Integrated Resource Plan.

The Eskom roadmap tabled by Minister Pravin Gordhan in October 2019 committed that a transmission company would be set up by December 2020 and legally separated by December 2021, with the unbundling of the generation and distribution entities completed by December 2022.

This restructuring process of Eskom is not a strategy to prepare the ground for its privatisation, as some political parties have alleged. On the contrary, Eskom's roadmap seeks to ensure the expansion of electricity supply to meet growing demand in the economy.

The ANC Study Group is united in its commitment to the restoration of Eskom to financial and operational viability. But we know that the full separation will take some time and will also require major policy, legislative and regulatory changes.

The regulatory framework has to be designed to ensure economic efficiency and any tariff increases and profit margins should be economically justifiable and not seek to fix economic inefficiencies in a business model.

PROGRESS TO DATE

Eskom has made progress in the course of the previous financial year. Corporate governance has improved through the new Board and the changes in the management structure. The new board and management have acted against allegations of corruption and commenced with legal processes to recover what is owed to the company.

Eskom also attempted improve the maintenance of power plants resulting in the reduced necessity of load shedding. There is also an improvement in the pricing of coal to the power stations. Eskom is now able in a transparent manner to view the cost structure of the coal mines that are applying for rights to participate. Eskom has also exceeded their own targets in terms of cost savings in the previous financial year. There have been improvements in terms of maintenance of the power plants and most units at Medupi are functional and Eskom is working on Kusile in the same manner. Eskom made a loss of R20 billion in the previous financial year. The company's financials reveal that there was irregular expenditure of R1.1 billion under the watch of the new management. While this was unacceptable, it is relatively low in comparison to previous years.



CONCLUSION

While there has been much progress in terms of the restructuring of Eskom into three divisions; namely, generation, transmission and distribution the legal separation has not as yet occurred.

Government's strategy is to ensure that Eskom returns to good corporate governance, operational excellence and commercial as well as financial viability. Its approach to public/ private partnerships in the electricity sector is to ensure that there is expansion of electricity supply to meet the growth in demand. This expansion of the electricity sector has to occur not only in generation, but in transmission and distribution as well. The efficient supply of electricity in the country is a critical input factor for the success of all other socio-economic activities.

ON PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY OFFICE



The ANC 54th National Conference (NASREC) resolution on Constituency offices provides the new orientation towards Constituency Work. This requires a transition politically, mentally and physically from the old to the new. The resolution calls for programmes of mobilization around the policies and resolutions of the ANC and government with communities influencing these.

The objective of the PCOs is to establish the basic platform and lay a foundation upon which a Constituency Functionary will be able to meet the demands of the ANC in performing Constituency work using the PCO as a base and a hub of activity.

Amongst others, Is to ensure a scientific integrated, systematic and coordinated approach to constituency governance, linking PCO's with Parliamentarians, MPL's, Councillors, Ward Committees, community development workers, CBO's and NGO's and ANC branches in a common effort to mobilise all sectors of a community into action around a programme of transforming people's lives for the better with a focus on social and economic mobilisation, linked to the pillars of the ANC Manifesto and facilitating access to government resources and programmes.

The South Africa's parliamentary system was adopted based on two historical ideologies of parliamentary systems that is influenced by colonial powers. The system contains similarities and elements of the Westminster system and American system. The combination of the two-system post 1994, gave birth to the proportional representation and constituency-based as South Africa's Parliamentary system of governance. South Africa's system of government differs greatly from those other commonwealth nations. As defined by the constitution as distinctive, interdependent and interrelated.

The Democratic Parliament system post 1994, dictates that parliamentarians must be constituency based when performing parliamentary responsibilities and it further provides in its parliamentary program a constituency period wherein, MPs are based in their respective Constituency office for a particular period. The ANC through the office of the Chief Whip ensures that its Members of Parliament are guided by the ANC election manifesto, ANC National conference resolution, state of the nation address and January 8 statement aspirations when conducting their constituency work in their respective provinces. The first parliamentary term as agreed to by the multi-party National Assembly Programming Committee that constituency period will resume on the 23rd of March until the 3rd of May 2021. The office of the Chief Whip has developed a focus areas program that seeks to guide Members of Parliament on what areas that need urgent attention in communities. The focus areas are as follows



ON PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY OFFICES



Popularizing of New Demarcation of Wards towards 2021 Local Government Elections;
Public Awareness on Vaccine Roll out Program and dispel myth about vaccine
On Going Program on Fridays on Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF)
School visits to assess effective teaching and learning for the first term, as well as to mobilize in high schools for Smart Card ID's for learners
Verification of National Caucus 195 PCO's to strengthen these offices as Community Development Centre and ANC Resource Centre per Sub-region to oil them up for Elections program
Preparation for 55 By-elections: 15 in April and 40 in May

At the end of the constituency period, MPs are expected to submit reports on the their constituency work during the period. findings contained in their report is used for exercising accountability to ministers and deputy ministers concerned.

During these constituency period the office of the Chief Whip embarked on an oversight visit over all 195 PCOs across the country under the theme "PCOs outreach program". The objective of the visit is to strengthen working relations with ANC structures and ANC deployees in government in an effort to foster coordination of resources for better quality service delivery to communities as anticipated by the District Development Model framework. It further seeks to enhance and entrench the oversight model adopted by ANC caucus in its Iekgotla. ANC Caucus believes that oversight is critical for the constituency work and create an enabling environment for alignment of government programs for all three tier of government.





In March 2021, South Africa commemorated Human Rights month under the theme: 'The Year of Charlotte Maxeke: Promoting Human Rights in the Age of COVID-19'. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of liberation struggle heroine and human rights campaigner, Mama Charlotte Manye Maxeke. Had she lived, she would be 150 years this year.

We commemorated Human Rights month just over one year since the President of the Republic of South Africa announced the national state of disaster and the implementation of the national lockdown. While placing certain limitations to our human rights, the objective of this was to curb the rampant spread of the deadly Coronavirus pandemic which has resulted in a loss of lives and livelihoods. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has been felt by all. It has changed our way of life forever.

Mama Charlotte Maxeke who came to be known as the "Mother of Black Freedom in South Africa," was an extraordinary woman who made a contribution at a time when it was exceptionally hard for women to rise to the fore in liberation politics. She took up space and cemented herself during a time when the voice of a women was unheard.

She was a leader in the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC), a social and political activist and the first black South African woman to graduate with a university degree; a BSc from Wilberforce University, Ohio, United States of America (USA) in 1901. Mama Maxeke was politically active throughout her adult life. She was an early opponent of passes for black women. Together with her husband, she attended the launch of the South African Native National Congress (SANNC), the precursor of the African National Congress (ANC) in Bloemfontein in 1912. She was concerned with the social and political status occupied by women. She helped organise the anti-pass movement in Bloemfontein in 1913 and founded the Bantu Women's League of the



25th Anniversary Celebration of the Constitution

SPEECH BY QR DYANTYI ~ ANC MP

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa

Acknowledging the threats against the national compact – most importantly the inequalities that persist and, in some ways, have deepened and articulating the key elements of the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery plan

Introduction: The Constitution as a national compact

We join our compatriots to mark an important milestone in the history of this country.

Compatriots, we mark this occasion, not just as an irrational attachment to anniversaries; but we do this to demonstrate the continuity of our struggle and underline the values of our movement:

- Humility
- Selflessness
- Integrity

Many people erroneously characterise the agreements reached at Kempton Park as the political settlement that ushered in a democratic dispensation in South Africa. The truth, however, is that the final settlement was reached when the elected Constitutional Assembly drew up the Constitution that was adopted in Parliament in May 1996.

The Constitution is therefore a national compact among the people of South Africa to live with one another in one indivisible

state. This Constitution and strong formal and informal checks and balances on all the institutions of the state and private sector, including a robust legal framework, an independent Judiciary, Chapter 9 institutions, active civil society and a free press, underpin our democracy.

Judge Albie Sachs – in the book, “Oliver Tambo’s Dream” says every constitution-making project has a central drama.

The biggest drama in our case was Group Rights vs Majority Rule and Bill of Rights. OR wanted us to look at ourselves as citizens of a NEW, Free, United and Democratic Society.

I quote Tambo, “You protect people from abuse not because they are black, not because they are white, not because they are the majority, not because they are in the minority, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE HUMANE BEINGS”

Compact is hollow if the majority have little or no bread

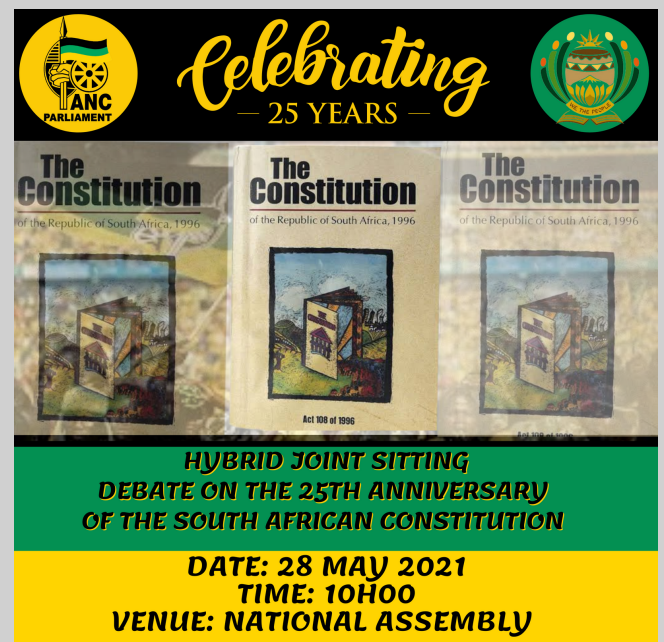
The South African compact included a commitment to reverse the political, social and economic disparities inherited from apartheid. In his inaugural address, President Nelson Mandela said, “Let there be work, bread, water and salt for all.”

The ANC has been faithful to this pact for socio-economic justice throughout our twenty-seven years in government. We have also been conscious that the effort to combine growth and redistribution would require a collective, society-wide commitment – one that cuts profoundly against the grain of South Africa’s historical legacy.

Highlights of progress

We have inherited an economy on the brink of collapse. We must not forget that by the end of the apartheid era, the economy had stopped growing. In the first decade and a half of the ANC in power, South Africa experienced the longest sustained growth period in its history.

To assess where we are on the 25th anniversary of the Constitution, we need to look at the developments in terms of socio-economic rights, and civil and political rights.



Socio-Economic Rights

Over the last 25 years, SA has made significant strides in achieving socio-economic rights, the "life and soul" of the Constitution, and the rights that have the most tangible impact on people's lives:

There have been tremendous strides in housing, education, social assistance and healthcare.

Millions of houses were built for the poor. Access to potable water grew from 60 percent to nearly 90 percent. Electricity connections grew from 50 percent in the 1990s to over 90 percent of households today. Immunization coverage targeting diseases such as polio, measles, tuberculosis and diphtheria also grew to over 92 percent. Enrolment at primary school is among the highest in the world at 99 percent. Tertiary education admissions have more than doubled since 1994.

Furthermore, the private sector investment rose as a share of GDP from an average of 14 percent in the 1990s to 17 percent in 2007. With growing revenues and a strong SARS, government was able to reduce absolute poverty, with a near doubling of real incomes for the poorest 50-60 percent of the population

Over and above, we take pride in many successes such as the strong judiciary, our election system and a strong human rights culture.

Challenges

For all of the above gains, there were some stark limitations on the progress experienced by those at the bottom of South Africa's distributional pyramid. The poorest forty percent are largely unemployed and live mostly in rural areas (designated as "homelands" in the apartheid era) and informal settlements that are poorly integrated into the social life of the towns and cities. Social grants are the principal source of livelihood for our people in these areas.

We acknowledge that many of the underlying structural realities in our country have not been addressed. If left unresolved, these dimensions of exclusion and inequality will place pressure on the institutions of our democracy and could even lead to the unravelling of the national compact

Why the ANC has called for radical socio-economic transformation

At the 53rd National Conference in Mangaung, the ANC reaffirmed that our economic vision rests on the Freedom Charter's call that the people shall share in South Africa's wealth. The Conference resolved that the ANC would drive radical socio-economic transformation.

The phrase 'Radical Economic Transformation' has been appropriated by a group that purports to be an organisation within the ANC. This situation has created a false perception that some ANC members are not committed to this resolution of our movement.

Dealing with the criticism that the Constitution and legal framework

The ANC has always believed that a thriving future can be built around cooperation and of win-win outcomes with shared benefits. That was the essence of the 1994 electoral slogan – “a better life for all”.

This belief remains strong, in spite of the perception that our Constitution and the legal system have been used to stall transformation and to preserve white privilege.

We know that a few ultra-conservative groups (such as Afriforum) still remain, albeit on the fringes of our society. The overwhelming majority of South Africans are committed to a united, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous nation. This is confirmed by the fact that the political parties that embrace the National Development Plan have consistently received almost 90 percent of the vote.

ERRP

Our country is still in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to the pandemic's devastating impact, President Ramaphosa presented the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan on 15 October last year. The President said, “This is a plan through which all of us as South Africans should work together to build a new economy.”

The Plan is a compact between government and all the social partners – organised labour, business and community constituency. It harnesses the full potential of our people in a



united front together with the investor community to create jobs and more equitably shared prosperity.

These interventions must also address the structural problems that beset the South African economy prior to Covid-19.

For the ANC, there is no contradiction between building a united society and driving a radical programme to resolve the contradictions in our society. It is not a zero-sum game that the ethnocentric political parties – EFF and Freedom Front Plus in particular – are wishing for.

In fact, our failure to achieve the objectives of reconstruction and recovery plan will lead to the guaranteed destruction of all that we treasure as South Africans.

Conclusion

As I conclude – allow me to send a humble WhatsApp message to the Father of this constitution - OR Tambo. I do this, to share with him the scorecard.

There are (3) things on our scorecard:

1. In the 25 years of this compact – we have made remarkable progress on so many fronts, staying true to our commitment of improving the lives of ordinary citizens.

What we have achieved on socio-economic and political rights is no mean feat.

2. The Building of a National Democratic Society has not been without challenges and threats. These include:

- Triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality Triple challenges of race, class and gender facing women

- State capacity – especially Local government

- Corruption now being a common feature of public life (including both in the public and private sector, from petty crimes like bribing traffic officers to grand looting as in state capture)

3. We remain inspired and hopeful. The leadership of both your movement and the country is beginning to reclaim lost ground. We are poised to accelerate on many fronts

Asinamona!

Asinandzondo!

Siyayidumisa iANC!

