
THURSDAY, 10 JUNE 2021

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

The sign † indicates the original language and [] directly thereafter indicates a translation.

[Virtual online sitting held through Microsoft Teams]

The House met at 14:15.

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may be seated. My apologies! Good afternoon hon members, guests and the media. Before we begin, I would just like to remind the members about some of the logistical arrangements to the sitting for today. As we have conducted sittings via our hybrid means, please to ensure, and I do understand and empathise that due to the rolling blackouts that we are having difficulty with connection, but that our hon members online can check that their connection is intact for the sitting and specifically for those that will be speaking into the record.

I also note that we have our IT on standby should we need to dial you in, and please hon members ensure that your microphones are muted. We are also finding that those of you with new devices can actually mute your speaking device of your microphone and not realise that your microphone as an attachment is muted, but your speaker is not. So please just make sure that when you need to speak all of your devices are not muted and then to remind you that you can use language translation on a second device and finally, as ruled by the Presiding Officer in the sitting of the House on 23 April 2020 via Microsoft Teams, no interjections shall be permitted during the debate. In this regard I also wish to draw the attention of the hon members to Rule 40 of the Standing Rules.

I recognise the Chief Whip.

(Motion)

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 20(1), precedence be given to the Subject for Discussion in the name of the hon Mackenzie.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are there any objections to the motion? No objections? Agreed to. I will now deal with the subject for discussion in the name of hon Mackenzie as printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon

member. My apologies.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Our first debater is hon Allen, and after that...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: My apologies. There is an error. Apologies. Thank you, Chief Whip. Hon Allen.

SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION

(The impact on the Western Cape of the National Government's failure to keep the lights on, to keep us safe and to keep us in jobs.)

Mr R I ALLEN: Good afternoon, Deputy Speaker. I trust that I am audible.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are audible. You may proceed.

Mr R I ALLEN: Deputy Speaker, allow me to provide a brief outline that paints a picture of the current status of national delivery. Firstly, over seven million people do not have jobs in our country.

Secondly, as justice is delayed by a backlog of over 100 000 unprocessed Western Cape DNA samples, it is quite frankly also denied. In terms of transport, Deputy Speaker, the Central Line in our city that many rely on in order to get to their desperately held employment opportunities is simply

unreliable or entirely absent. Then there is the a South African proverb that says: “We regret to inform you that loadshedding Stage 4 will be implemented from 12 p.m. today until Sunday evening.”

Deputy Speaker, the topic in the name of hon Mackenzie could not be debated at a more appropriate time. We must, with urgency, constructively discuss the impact in the Western Cape of the National Government’s failure to keep the lights on, to keep us safe and to keep our jobs.” As of today we are not merely experiencing loadshedding but rolling blackouts across the country and in our province. It should never be forgotten that the very people who caused the mess, the people who indulged in corruption and the people who created the deep crisis that we are experiencing at this very moment, where they come from, and who were protected by our National Government under ANC rule. Deputy Speaker, our patience is up. The DA has consistently over a period of more than 15 years highlighted the issues around cadre deployment, State capture, the ANC’s internal culture of corruption against the greater need to create jobs, capacitate the safety services, root out maladministration and looting of PRASA, and at the very least keep the lights on, but with every enormous failure or scandal the President appears to be shocked. Deputy Speaker, our National President, President Ramaphosa was shocked when he took a Metrorail train. Deputy Speaker, the carriage broke down and the journey was delayed and the President was two hours late for his next engagement.

When he was asked about it, and I quote, he said: “I was shocked.” If the

President is also shocked on the real state of SAPS and unemployment in South Africa then he must obviously reside beyond the borders of this Republic, but, Deputy Speaker, transportation is key to the development of any country, but after 27 years of ANC governance the dream of an affordable integrated system is a pipe dream. Instead of exerting political will to the pioneering policy papers presented the ANC abandoned every realistic macro-economic policy in mid-air. Through its inconsistency, Deputy Speaker, and lack of leadership, PRASA alone received R800 million which grew to R5 billion in two years with close to nothing to show.

We still have a broken rail system, and Deputy Speaker, we also argue that the abandonment of sound policies is why we have a dynamic youthful population, yet unprecedented youth unemployment.

Deputy Speaker, may we consider the following: two days ago the Standing Committee on Community Safety undertook an oversight visit to the SAPS Forensic Science Lab in Cape Town, where it was revealed that the DNA backlog now stands at a new total of over 100 000 samples. This is a 30% increase, Deputy Speaker, since December last year when 74 700 unprocessed samples were recorded and the reason behind the significant increase in the backlog is simple. It is substandard administration and again a sheer lack of will from national leadership. But, Deputy Speaker, if the existing challenges within the Human Resources Management, the delivery of consumables, broken equipment and facilities management along with inefficiencies in the Central Track and Trace System are overcome, SAPS claimed that it would be able to

process [Inaudible – mic lost contact.] DNA samples per day, instead of tying up these loose ends the National Minister of Police watches how R1,6 billion is lost in SAPS PPE procurement flaws, but Deputy Speaker, we do things differently in the Western Cape because we seek to serve the people. The Department of Community Safety conducts tremendous work towards preventing crime and violence through the work of the Youth Safety Ambassadors area-based teams to integrate crime interventions via the deployment of additional law enforcement officers in all the areas where it matters most, and Deputy Speaker, it is indeed the Provincial Government led by the DA that continues to stretch the limits of its oversight mandate to promote a whole-of-society approach to community safety to buffer the inefficiencies of SAPS in the Western Cape.

In closing, Deputy Speaker, I appreciate that hon Mackenzie has tabled this important debate today, the impact of national failures is beyond belief, ranging from justice being delayed to justice being denied, to calling SAPS for assistance and not knowing if the phone will be picked up, or if the phone is picked up that the policeman will actually arrive, seeing that 1 200 SAPS vehicles are... [Inaudible – mic lost contact.] to commuters, Deputy Speaker, due to overcrowded and delayed Metrorail trains, to forking out more money as commuters with monthly train tickets have to use alternative transport due to the poor service of Metrorail under the leadership of the National Government.

Deputy Speaker, through you to the residents of the Western Cape of South

Africa, I wish to say, later this year we will all have an opportunity to use our power during the Local Government elections when we vote for a party that delivers, and that party is the Democratic Alliance. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I now recognise the hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Can you hear me?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can hear you loud and clear.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, allow me to open with this quote from Adlai E Stevenson, the 23rd Vice-President of the United States when he said:

“A hypocrite is the kind of politician who would cut down a redwood tree, then mount the stump and make a speech for conversation.”

It is as if he was sitting somewhere in the Chamber listening to DA hypocrisy and halftruths when he uttered these words. While this Provincial Government wants to portray itself as paragons of morality, justice and good governance on the one hand, it has failed to do a basic thing like protecting a victim of sexual harassment in the workplace. Instead it protects the perpetrator while the victim is left suffering from depression and anxiety. The hypocrisy goes beyond the DA wanting to speak with authority on the issues of safety while

its policies have meant that women and children in the township, informal settlements are raped and murdered when they go to toilets at night. The DA Government in the Province is one that talks too much with no action. It is a party of all talk and spin and no substance, while the DA's grandstanding and playing to the gallery in this debate, other provinces and municipalities are forging ahead with plans to improve electricity supply. The City of Johannesburg announced last week that it will spend over R3,8 billion in investment to the solar and gas-fired power as well as a better storage to improve its electricity supply. The municipality has already started with plans to issue a request for information for the construction of a 150 megawatt solar plant, a 50 megawatt of rooftop solar panels and the refurbishment of an ideal gas-fired plant that could generate 20 megawatts in September.

It will also seek information for the installation of 100 megawatts of battery storage. In addition to this the municipality plans to produce solar energy from the rooftops of its own buildings and purchase some battery storage. R78 million has been set aside for that in the next financial year. The municipality is even prepared to lease land around disused mines to implement, I mean, lease these mines to independent power producers to set up solar plants.

Deputy Speaker, that is an example of the Government that is serious about addressing the energy crisis and not one that uses every challenge for political point scoring. The DA has made the loudest noise calling for powers of the energy department to be devolved to provinces and the monopoly of Eskom to be broken. Yet, it has failed to implement its own projects to mitigate the

impact of load shedding.

In 2017 the State of the Province Address, the then Premier Helen Zille stated that her Government target is to enable independent generation of 135 megawatts through solar panel installations by 2020. We are in 2021. How many megawatts have been generated? In the same SOPA she announced that the launch of the rooftop PV Campaign to encourage businesses to switch to solar, stay on the grid and save on their electricity bill. She added that the Government would install PV in five Western Cape Government buildings.

Had these initiatives been fully implemented, the province would now have alternative sources of power, but again the DA has failed. What happened to the Agri Worker Electrification Project that was announced by Zille in 2014 and piloted by MEC Bredell in 2016 with the aim to make electricity available directly to Agri workers? The MEC said the initiative would be rolled out across the province. This Government has failed the farmworkers. Five years after that project was piloted farmworkers are still at the mercy of farmers who remain the only persons that can purchase electricity from vendors. Workers who want to protest or join unions are not given electricity up until they stop the protest. Why is the DA not talking about such challenges affecting people in the province where it governs and has powers to address them? It can only be hypocrisy.

Deputy Speaker, I want to point out that the crime situation in the Western Cape differs significantly between the economically disadvantaged and the

more affluent. Addressing this disparity is a key policy challenge that has been deliberately ignored by this DA Government. For several years we have been arguing that environmental design and improvement to the physical environment such as improved lighting, can augment Government's effort to improve safety in high-crime hotspot areas. International studies found that increased levels of lighting leads to reduction in overall index crimes, such as murder, robbery and aggravated assault. Crime in hotspot areas is not caused by loadshedding but it is the deliberate decision by the DA Government not to invest in making the physical environment less conducive to crime, by installing street lights, CCTV cameras and improving accessibility especially in informal settlements. The Premier must use part of the Safety Plan budget to invest in making the physical environment less conducive to crime. Instead of bragging about building houses with stoeps, this Government should consider including outside lighting in the new houses.

The debate really exposes the DA's hypocrisy and double standards, a DA that is willing to break barriers for the rich, while ignoring the calls to create a safe environment for the poor. The dark areas which are not accessible in our areas will remain unsafe even if loadshedding were to end tomorrow, because there are no lights. It is just logic. You can have electricity but if you don't have lights, there will not be any lighting. Hannah Arendt warned us about hypocrisy when he said:

“Only crime and the criminal, it is true, confront us with the perplexity of radical evil; but only the hypocrite is really rotten to the core.”

The hypocrite in the Western Cape is the Western Cape is the DA which calls our leaders of the ANC who are facing allegations of corruption to step down, who are the defending councillors of the DA who are out on bail for corruption and money-laundering. The hypocrite in the Western Cape is the DA that only wants black votes, but is not prepared to change their living conditions, but only gives them food parcels which they think will sway their vote, as confirmed by the DA discharged child soldier, alias Mackenzie. [Inaudible.].

The hypocrite in the Western Cape is a DA which uses jobs in this debate that are apparently lost due to the current energy crisis, who attacks the National Government. When it spends nothing out of the R1 billion Safety Plan to create jobs, the DA that has been ignoring calls in this very same House by the ANC when we said that 1000 boots on the ground will not solve crime in the Western Cape and will not halve any murder rating. It does not matter in how many years, but what we need is an intervention in the economic challenges of our areas, where young people are readily available to be recruited by gangs, to be part of gangs for them to earn a living. The DA is their lie and lies have short legs. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I now recognise hon Wenger.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. It is undeniable that successive ANC governments have failed South Africans when it comes to electricity. Promises have been made as far back as 2007 when South Africans

were first plunged into darkness. 14 years later we are at Stage 4 loadshedding.

In 2008 Thabo Mbeki said:

“Government was taking collective responsibility for their failure to ignore a decade worth of warnings that urgent action was needed at Eskom...”

But fast forward to today, our lights are out more often and Government is missing in action. An Eskom War Room was established and headed by then Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa to oversee the turnaround of the State power utility. In 2015 he said:

“We are taking decisive action to reduce the need for loadshedding and secure our energy supply into the future...”

But in all the time as Chair of this War Room and for three years beyond that he never once visited Medupi. He said:

“Let me give the assurance that yes, as much as we are going through loadshedding that is going to be a problem that stays with us for the next year, 18 months to two years. Beyond that South Africa will have sufficient energy.”

His predictions were as reliable as Eskom. Two years later South Africa was

plunged into unprecedented Level 6 loadshedding. So dire is the situation that last week Wednesday only one of Eskom's 17 power stations were operating at full capacity; not Medupi, not Kusile, but Komati, a geriatric 60-year old station producing just 1% of demand. It is no wonder the ANC keeps talking about a new dawn. It is because that is all we can rely on - natural light. In an appalling track record Brian Molefe was appointed as Eskom's CEO who shortly thereafter became a disgraced Gupta pawn. Meanwhile the ANC's investment arm, Chancellor House, received 25% of the local of Hitachi in 2007, which conveniently won the contracts to build boilers for power stations and reportedly paid Chancellor House \$1 million in success fees. Medupi's final completion date was extended to 2015, then to 2020 and it is still not done. Medupi is at least 2.5 times over budget and expected to cost R145 billion. This makes Medupi the most expensive coal-powered station in the world and if it is ever fully completed this one project according to the Terra Firma Academy, will increase South Africa's emissions by 6%, roughly the same carbon emissions as seven million cars in one year.

In addition the carbon tax introduced by the National Government will mean that Medupi could be taxed approximately R1,6 billion with its first year of full operation and those costs will almost certainly be borne by us, the consumers. What a disaster, brought to you by the ANC. The real tragedy is what this disaster means for people. Wits Economics Professor Jannie Rossouw estimates the country's economy could be 25% larger, were it not for loadshedding. This equates to a cost of R1,2 trillion in lost economic activity, growth and investment and which contributes to crippling unemployment, and

what about mothers that cannot warm food for their children or prepare bottles for babies? What about small businesses that are losing what little they have with rotting food in their fridges or dialysis patients that cannot use the machines to keep them alive. What about COVID-19 vaccines that need to be stored at minus 70 degrees Celsius? Loadshedding affects lives and livelihoods and it also opens up rife opportunity for crime.

Last month here in the City three people died during loadshedding because their neighbours thought their screams were as a result of a burglary, which has become common during power outages, instead of their house being on fire. But Western Cape citizens and South Africans have become resilient despite Government failures. Families across suburbs support each other to warm food. We have created apps to help us plan and continue life where the ANC Government has failed us. An example of Western Cape innovation in this area is the Plentify HotBot which works with the City of Cape Town as a partner in government. The device learns the behaviour of our households and adjusts power usage to lower strain on the grid during peak time.

Energy alternatives have been made possible through other governments, such as this Provincial Government and municipalities here, which together have lobbied National and supported one another in municipal energy resilience. Like South Africans we have to work around Pretoria to get things done and today's amended regulations are too little too late. On electricity the ANC has failed us. While the rest of the world is moving to a future free from fossil fuels the ANC is still hoping that yesterday's fossil fuel projects will be

realised. Maybe the only real fossil to be worried about is the ANC, and hon Kama, what a joke to exalt Johannesburg. Johannesburg City's power is the worst. Their loadshedding lasts for six days at a time, while here in Cape Town we are gable to protect residents from one stage of loadshedding at a time. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I now recognise hon Makamba-Botya.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Loadshedding continues to affect the lives of millions of South Africans in a negative way and by the look of things this is something people will have to endure for a couple of years to come due to lack of proper leadership in the country. The people responsible for running the energy sector in this country together with Eskom have failed us as citizens and people living in this beautiful nation. Since 2008 the country has been bleeding billions of rands as a result of power outages associated with loadshedding. Having said that, although the bulk of the blame should be directed at National Government for failing to steer the country out of darkness, the DA-led Western Cape Provincial Government has equally been nothing but spectators as they have failed to mitigate by introducing other energy alternatives for the past 11 years. So they cannot come now and claim that they can all of a sudden lead from the front in restoring the lives, as they also remain part of the problem.

Deputy Speaker, the power outages negatively affect industrial outputs,

investor confidence and lead to loss of jobs in the country. This is so because the majority of our industries in the country rely on the power generated by Eskom. So when this power is cut the manufacturing process is disrupted, which consequently affects output. During this unfortunate process labour and industrial equipment remain ineffective and unused for hours and the economic burden then shifts to these industries to continue paying workers and also servicing equipment notwithstanding the loss of hours. As time goes by the cost of running these industries become unbearable due to labour remaining ineffective and this results in retrenchment of staff members. Furthermore, Deputy Speaker, this uncertainty in the energy sector also affects investors confidence in the country as investors require some form of assurance that the country has adequate energy to function and to allow business to operate.

Moreover, issues of unemployment in this province are not only as a result of failure on the part of Eskom. The DA Government also has no strategy of creating meaningful jobs in the province. One cannot have a provincial government that prides itself of creating EPWP job opportunities, which pays people close to nothing as if they are slaves.

The agricultural sector in the province continues to bring in millions while farmworkers continue to be exonerated using five litres of wine and a few boxes of table grapes. These are also humans who should be treated with dignity and humanitarianism as well. I thank you, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I now recognise

hon Herron. I see you are on the road to recovery.

Mr B N HERRON: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, there is no need to debate whether Eskom has continued to fail us, whether we have managed to put a lid on crime or whether COVID has negatively impacted our lives and economy. The answers to these questions are obvious. The real questions we should be seized with is what we are contributing constructively to fix the mess. After 13 years of power failures, besides criticising National Government and Eskom, which we all do, and claiming to have deeper insights and better solutions, what has the Western Cape actually done to prepare for an alternative energy economy? Are we ahead of other provinces and the installation of solar geysers or do we have more independent power producers lined up than anyone else? Hundreds of thousands of law-abiding citizens of Cape Town have lived in the shadows of gangsterism and crime for decades, spatially, socially, economically and psychologically detached from what we, the privileged, among us call the Mother City.

What has the Western Cape actually done to address this tear in our fabric? Where is the inclusionary housing and the integration? Was the plan simply to continue to manage gang and poverty-ridden ghettos on the Cape Flats forever? And besides pointing out deficiencies in our response to COVID and making regular statements amount how much better a DA-led Government would have managed the crisis, what has this Government actually done to demonstrate its self-proclaimed superiority? Did we do contact tracing better? Did we do lockdown better? Are more of us wearing masks and demonstrating

social responsibility? Are we managing the vaccine rollout better? If we answered on the basis of the scientific facts and numbers we have all seen, we have to say, “no, no, no and no.”

Creating occasions such as this to lambaste National Government failures as a political strategy instead of using our energy to tailor solutions to improve citizens lives does not really move us forward at all. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I now recognise hon Bosman.

Mr G BOSMAN: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, the recent unemployment statistics present a dim outlook for the future of this country in the hands of the ANC, in particular the high levels of youth unemployment which stands at an expanded rate of 74.4%. It shows that the ANC and GOOD has no plan whatsoever to provide meaningful solutions for the future of our young people. The country now faces a new series of rolling blackouts which puts further strain on not just the economy, but also our lives and will very likely lead to more job losses. Those who stand to suffer the most are our young people, especially those from disadvantaged communities, and those from vulnerable backgrounds.

With the unemployment rate already reaching its highest level since 1999 we face an incredibly dire situation where National Government is unable to sustain an environment for young people to join the workforce. We see the

growth in the criminal opportunism and the lure of gangsterism because our young people are desperate and criminals exploit this desperation. Despite this concerning fact there is still no real answer from the ANC in Pretoria as we know the ANC in the Western Cape is devoid of any clear plan to address youth unemployment or to address anything for that matter. They cannot even pay their professional staff their salaries. Instead the ANC has cancelled the R350 social relief of distress grant with no other plan in place despite its own admission that without this grant those living below the food poverty line would have doubled.

Worse still, whilst the grant was being administered, the ANC Minister of Social Development marketed this grant as some sort of economic opportunity for entrepreneurship. This is an insult to the vulnerable people trying to make a living and it is a pitiful exercise of an incapable state unwilling to provide the most basic of safety nets to our people. In the Western Cape Government, Deputy Speaker, despite the harsh economic conditions placed onto us by our National Government, this Government in the Western Cape has sought to mitigate some of the most harshest effects by leading, by being an effective government in contrast to the incompetence displayed by the African National Congress. Even though the stringent COVID-19 Regulations have forced many businesses to close, our Government has paid out R38 million in relief funds to 249 small businesses. We have saved 2 000 jobs and we provided new business initiative to the COVID-19 Content Centre, the Go Digital Western Cape as well as jobs created through our Red Tape Reduction Unit. It is a support structure that contributes not just to job creation but also to the

Western Cape having the lowest expanded unemployment rate, showing that in this difficult time people can still get opportunities in the Western Cape and we see people coming to the Western Cape every day looking for jobs and looking for opportunities.

In addition, when it comes to young people, the Province has several projects in place to help them integrate into the economy. Some of these include the Year Beyond Programme which empowers young people with skills to enter the world of work. Our Youth Safety Ambassador Programme is an example of how to keep young people off the street and to make sure that 18 and 35-year olds get work opportunities across the province. Our Cape Access Centres provide an enabling environment for young people to look for work, upskill themselves and use the resources available free of charge.

Deputy Speaker, as I conclude, I want to say that in order to enable us to fight unemployment in this country and specifically youth unemployment, we will need to ensure that all spheres of government work together towards realising this. Even though the Western Cape has done well in offering the necessary resources and structures to create an enabling environment a large portion of what is hampering us is our National Government's inability to come to the table. What we need is a long-lasting solution that will mitigate the effects of the lockdown and ensure that the key State-owned Enterprises like Eskom have mechanisms in place to keep the lights on so that we do not put any further strain on the economy. I want to encourage hon Kama to write to the President again and ask him to take young people seriously and ask him to take the

economy seriously and ask him to really get the ANC to either work or allow themselves to be voted out like they were in this province. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: thank you very much, hon member. I now recognise hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, children born in 2007 will this year celebrate their 14th birthday. This is the period of shame and hardship that South Africa has experienced because of loadshedding. These students will have grown up with loadshedding and seen the inefficiency of the ANC Government to keep the lights on, to keep us safe and to provide a vibrant economy. Leaders and decision-makers in Eskom and Government predicted in the late 90's that Eskom would run out of power reserves by 2007, unless preventative measures were taken.

Deputy Speaker, which measures were taken? Which measures were taken? With loadshedding the most vulnerable people suffer. They suffer the most and the ANC Government has failed to expand the country's energy production capacity before 2007. This failure has seen the country subjected to five periods of loadshedding that have its core and sum total of a complete lack of planning for the future. The economy is a skeleton of its vitality before loadshedding. The economy have lost its vibrancy. Our economy is in ruins. The economy under the ANC Government through loadshedding has failed the people of South Africa. The economy has been weakened by the ANC Government's inefficiency. Big companies and small ones have been hit hard,

rising the unemployment rate to staggering numbers. We are presenting this to the people of the Western Cape to say there are Local Government elections. Choose right. I thank you, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Christians for being exactly on time. I now recognise hon Minister Meyer.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, this debate takes place against the background of massive loadshedding, Stage 4, and despite the promises by the President things are getting worse by the day in South Africa. The City of Johannesburg, South Africa's business and economic hub, is collapsing right in front of our eyes. [Microphone off.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, put your microphone on please, your microphone.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Do you want me to start over?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, please, for the record. My apologies, we only realised that now.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, this debate takes place against the background of massive loadshedding, Stage 4 now in South Africa, and despite the promises by the President things are getting worse by the day in South Africa. The City of Johannesburg, South Africa's business

and economic hub, is collapsing right in front of our eyes. [No microphone]

A once prosperous creative hub in South Africa is now beyond fixing under the present Government in South Africa. Johannesburg is responsible for 14% of South Africa's economic activities and the electricity problems in Johannesburg put South Africa in an economic crisis. It is not only businesses that suffer as hon member Christians just mentioned now, ordinary people cannot live a dignified life without electricity. People in townships suffer the most. South Africa has an ANC Government that simply does not care, a government that is not accountable to people any more, a government that has no integrity at all, a government that does not know how to use innovation to solve the complex problems of the energy crisis. They appoint cadres and incompetent managers. They do not have a responsive governance approach.

Hon Deputy Speaker, contrasting this to the Western Cape Government, under the leadership of Premier Allan Winde, the Western Cape is the best run government in South Africa. The Western Cape has completed lifestyle audits of members of his Cabinet. President Ramaphosa has made similar promises but he realised he would have to fire half of his Cabinet if he were to conduct a lifestyle audit on his Cabinet Ministers. The Western Cape will create 1 000 green jobs by rehabilitating 15 000 hectares of agricultural land by clearing alien vegetation. The Western Cape Government is responsive. Every week Premier Alan Winde and Dr Cloete host a Digicon to brief our province's citizens about our COVID-19 response plan. The Western Cape Government recently launched a vaccine registration dashboard showing in real time the

uptake of the vaccine and the registration campaign per geographical area in the Western Cape. Innovation in action in the Western Cape.

The Western Cape Government is a government led by data and evidence. We are making decisions based on research, data and evidence. During the State of the Province Address, Premier Winde called on the citizens of this province to stand together to beat COVID-19, to create jobs, to build safer communities and to ensure dignity. While the ANC switches off the lights in South Africa the DA is switching on the lights to create jobs, make the Western Cape safer and create wellbeing and dignity.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I now want to turn to two pieces of legislation before Parliament that does not have the interest of the public at heart. These two Bills are the expropriation of property, generally known as the Expropriation Bill and the draconian Firearms Bill, also known as the Firearms Control Amendment Bill. The Expropriation Bill wants to put all property and all land under the custodianship of Government, effectively the nationalisation of property. Private property is the cornerstone of any democracy and we know that the ANC is hell-bent on destroying the constitutional democracy in South Africa.

Banks in South Africa are exposed to R1,6 trillion in mortgages and expropriation without compensation, Madam Deputy Speaker, will effectively collapse the entire banking system, the entire financial institutions. Members of this Legislature must know it will cause the Speaker of this House to pay

your salaries each month in cash. I would hate to see hon Lekker putting her cash, her salary, under her mattress because that would be the only banking system left if expropriation continues... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Cash is king!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ...putting under a mattress 50 years ago and I would not like to see South Africans going back to 50 years ago. Let us put people 50 years ahead. Give them access to successful title deeds, private property rights, mentorship, government support and authentic empowerment. The Western Cape Government has a proven track record of successful land reform because it shows that it is possible and it is working in the Western Cape but it can only work because people have a capable state in the Western Cape. It only works because our beneficiaries are getting the support of the government and proper mentorship. We must stand united in the Western Cape against the Expropriation Bill. Let us be bold and brave. Let us tear this Bill into pieces. Let us send a signal to the ANC Government. Your Bill will not be implemented in the Western Cape. Tough luck!

†Mnr die President, dit is nou tyd om ernstig te wees met die boodskap en die boodskap vir die ANC-regering te stuur. Die Regering by monde van die Nasionale Minister van Polisie het misluk om Suid-Afrikaners se veiligheid te verseker. Nou wil die Regering deur middel van 'n wetsontwerp mense se vuurwapens ontnem wat hulle moet gebruik vir hulle selfverdediging.

Mnr die Minister, die DA en die inwoners van die Wes-Kaap spreek u nou mooi

aan. Stop waarmee u besig is. U krap nou daar waar dit nie jeuk nie. Wapeneienaars en wetsgehoorsame burgers het die reg om hulle te beskerm want u regering het alle Suid-Afrikaners gefaal. Daarom moet hulle hulself beskerm. Die wapenwetsontwerp van die Regering is irrasioneel en ons gaan dit verwerp. Landbouers gaan dit verwerp. Boere, hulle gesinne, Agri-werkers word wreedaardig en brutaal op plase vermoor en nou wil die Regering hulle wapens wat hulle moet gebruik om hulle te beskerm, wegneem.

Nee, mnr Bheki Cele, hier het u nou te ver gegaan. Jou twak is nat. Ons Suid-Afrikaners gaan dit nie duld nie. Die Wes-Kaap gaan dit nie duld nie. Ons boere gaan dit nie duld nie. Ons werkers gaan dit nie duld nie.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr President, it is now time to be serious with the message and to send the message to the ANC Government. The Government, through the mouth of the National Minister of Police, has failed to ensure South Africans' safety. Now by way of a Bill the Government wants to take away people's firearms that they have to use for their self-protection.

Mr Minister, the DA and the citizens of the Western Cape are appealing to you now. Stop what you are busy with. Don't meddle where you don't have to. Owners of firearms and law-abiding citizens have the right to protect themselves because your Government has failed all South Africans. Therefore they have to protect themselves. The Firearms Bill of the Government is

irrational and we are going to reject it. Agriculturalists are going to reject it. Farmers, their families, Agri-workers are being murdered cruelly and brutally on farms and now the Government wants to take away their firearms they have to use to protect themselves.

No, Mr Bheki Cele, here you have gone too far. Your powder is damp. Our South Africans will not tolerate that. The Western Cape will not tolerate that. Our farmers are not going to tolerate that. Our workers will not tolerate that.] Let us vote out this criminal syndicate in South Africa. Vote for the Democratic Alliance and stop the madness. Vote DA and experience the difference. Use your vote on 27 October to bring real change in South Africa in every town in every street across South Africa.

Madam Deputy Speaker, when a Bill appears before Parliament, that contradicts the spirit of a constitutional democracy, there is only one choice left and that is the choice, we the people of the Western Cape exercise today in this House, and so, this Bill Expropriation contradicts the spirit of the Constitution. It should be in the dustbin. The Firearms Bill takes away the right of people for self-defence. It contradicts the Bill. It should be in the dustbin. This is the message from the Western Cape to the National Minister, to President Cyril Ramaphosa. Enough is enough. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister, and congratulations to your appointment as Leader of Government Business. I now recognise hon Brinkhuis. Is he able to hear us? I know he is travelling.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Yes, thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you very much. I am quoting the Al Jamah-ah President and Member of Parliament, hon Ganief Hendricks, who recently said to the National Assembly it is the most unpatriotic thing of the DA to say that South Africa is a failed state.

Firstly we must acknowledge and recognise the state of bankruptcy South Africa was in when it was handed over to a democratically elected government in 1994. Let us not forget when this Government took over the country was in a dire fiscal state and still managed to pay off a huge apartheid debt. During apartheid the distribution of electricity by Eskom only served part of the population of the country. In post-apartheid Eskom had to deliver to more people including the former Bantustans. The Western Cape Provincial Government is responsible for ensuring that its energy strategy compliments that of the National Government. The question is does this Provincial Government meet its mandate? It has set a target of 25% energy from renewables by 2020. Did it meet these targets? If Eskom is failing to meet its duties under the licence, the mandate of the province... [inaudible - speaking simultaneously]

An HON MEMBER: ...something now about D F Malan...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr G BRINKHUIS: ... so compensate for the shortfall at Eskom. [Interjection.]

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: ...about the people wanted, you know, the gay...
[Inaudible.] [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! One minute please. Can we just have muting of microphones before hon Brinkhuis continues?

An HON MEMBER: Someone spoke about gays.

An HON MEMBER: Member Christians.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Christians, please mute your microphone.

An HON MEMBER: Gays?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can you please mute hon Christians microphone?
Noted, muted. Thank you very much. Hon Brinkhuis, you may continue. Hon Brinkhuis, are you there? Just check that you are not muted, we might have muted you too.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Yes, hon Deputy Speaker, I am here. Do I continue?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed, yes, you may proceed. Apologies for the disruption.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you very much. What is the province doing to give homeowners and companies tax deductions to promote small embedded energy generations, generation options such as solar panels and wind, whilst it is correct to blame the National Government and Eskom for unreliable and insecure energy supply, the political responsibility has to be assumed by the Western Cape administration for [Inaudible.] duty to compliment Eskom at local level. This Province must question its own performance. Every home and commercial building should now have its own solar panels and its own solar water heaters. On safety... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, thank you, hon member Brinkhuis, your time is up. Thank you very much.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you, thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now recognise hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Firstly, I think, hon Deputy Speaker, we have to counsel hon member Meyer to understand whether he can speak as loud as he can; the honeymoon is over, as indicated by the aggregate performance of the DA in the by-elections in this current administration. So he must wake up from dreamland.

The ANC in this Provincial Parliament welcomes this debate and has come to accept politics of deception, politics of privilege and that have come to characterise the dealings with this House under the leadership of the blue detachment, the DA. The politics of optics, where public perception is diverted to the form of the things than their substance.

Allow us then to accept our role as the South African state in its transformation from an apartheid inheritance to a democratic foundation, towards a united, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous society for all, as the only preoccupation of the ANC.

It is that conviction that brings us here in this House and led to the seats we occupy in this House, to continue the fight of a better society. It is no discovery, but a fact of history, that the Western Cape has been ahead of the pack owing to the endowments of colonial conquest, something the former DA leader, Helen Zille, arrogantly boasted about in her colonial Tweets, as a former Cape Colony under British and later a union with Dutch rule, to force the natives to the sidelines and hinterland. It is no discovery that the Eastern Cape, Northern Cape and Limpopo, products of Bantustans fortunes, were socially engineered by the policies of these colonial protagonists, to the kind of poverty and underdevelopment experienced 27 years later.

Cecil John Rhodes, in outlining the colonial agenda, clarified the vision of the time, that we must find new lands from which we can easily obtain raw materials, and at the same time exploit the cheap slave labour that is available

from the natives of the colonies.

As Dr Tshilidzi Ratshitanga points this situation out in his book “*New Cities, New Economies*”; that apartheid was highly geographical and the colonial settlement maps depict how the two settler groups dissected the country for their benefit. So this province, Western Cape, is a former Cape Colony; Gauteng is the former Transvaal; Natal; Free State as former Orange Free State, are no accidents of history of the kind of uneven development we see and experience in our daily lives. The benevolence of the colonial endowments must never lead to undue self-importance by geography, without recognising the structural advantage a province like the Western Cape stands on.

Hon Deputy Speaker, as the ANC we are not afraid to engage on what impact Eskom has had on the Western Cape, in particular here in the province.

Since 1994 Eskom has seen to the strengthening of the connection to the Western Cape with a third 260 kilometres, 400 kilowatt line; a new supply line to the Saldanha Smelter, Phase 1 of the project, requiring 210 megawatts of power by August 1997.

These two projects are specifically mentioned in light of the growth of this province’s economy since 1994, and the growth of our national economy. Since 1994 the majority of people of the Western Cape have had access to electricity thanks to the ANC-led Government and its electrification programme.

Listening to Eskom CEO on eNCA “Judge for Yourself” talk show yesterday, he acknowledges the coming to an end of our coal-fired power stations with excess of 40 years that have been a main source of our electricity generation needs. Those power stations have run their course and can no longer carry the country’s increased needs for both household and industry.

New power stations were brought into stream, like Medupi, Kusile, whilst the period of renewables met South Africa [Inaudible.] energy realities at a strategic time in global policy development, which were brought by effects of climate change. There lies the grand opportunity to part ways with the old, to usher an era of energy mix through renewables, modelled along transformative and inclusive approaches.

We sit in a precarious period of managing a just energy transition while improving our energy availability factor. The efforts are underway in Eskom and DMRE to expand energy generation capacity, whilst Government consider opportunities of blended financing from opportunities brought by green financing from the likes of World Bank and other FDIs, to mitigate carbon emissions.

We welcome the leadership of President Ramaphosa this morning to ease regulation and exempt generation projects of up to 100 megawatts in size from NERSA licencing requirements. This is what the Eskom CEO, with Judge Dennis, in the talk show raised as an immediate solution, that by allowing self-imbedded generation up to 50 megawatt, such can realise up to 5,000

megawatts in the shortest period, and relieve the pressure that resulted in loadshedding by Eskom. Such will buy the time required to shut down the old power stations and provide the bridging period needed to enable renewables in the grid. We must applaud the President's up-leadership to keep lights on.

In this House, under a DA rule, we are subjected to a narcissistic deflection government, who operates with an alternative reality, causing them to interpret events in whatever way that suits their blue lies narrative, leaving behind a shield of protection, they learnt that they have to be the one who decides what truth is.

Deception of a well-run government and municipalities speak of politics of optics and grandeur, that is biased to a certain class of citizens. Here is the other truth lived by citizens of this province the blue troops are oblivious to: where is the R70 million towards the Municipal Energy Resilience Project? What progress has been made? How many megawatts have been secured and by when?

We await DA Government's promise to keep lights on in this province. In an article by Oliver Wainwright titled "*Apartheid Ended 20 Years Ago*", so why is Cape Town still a paradise for the few? This reality and sense of apartheid remains stronger even today as this Government had to be forced by courts to avert a R135 million sale of Sea Point property and both the City and Provincial Government ordered to create an inclusionary housing plan.

We thank our judiciary, our National Government and the citizens who stood firm and exposed the DA Government failure to keep its citizens safe.

In a presentation by DEDAT only yesterday to the Standing Committee, it was reported that Western Cape's labour force is above 3 million; provincial unemployment is sitting at 680,000 individuals, but those that are not in education nor in employment or training, are 1,748,000; 58% of the provincial workforce are not economically active. 43% of youth of up to age of 24 is unemployed; nearly double the provincial unemployment rate. 53% of the provincial population of over 20 years of age does not have matric.

So this is the impact of DA Government failure to keep citizens in jobs in the Western Cape. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I now recognise hon member Mackenzie.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, yesterday hon member Brett Herron Tweeted, and I quote:

“COVID-19 has been hectic since symptoms started on Sunday, but thanks to the Western Cape Government's healthcare centre, I received a call to confirm my positivity test; checked that I was isolating; check I have notified all possible contacts and offered

accommodation and support.”

So to answer hon member Brett Herron’s questions, the answer to your questions, hon member Brett Herron, based on your own quote, is yes, yes and yes. The Western Cape Government indeed does better, based on your own Tweet from yesterday, and I certainly hope that you do get well, hon member.

To hon member Nkondlo, thank you for the input. Hon member Nkondlo talks about an alternative reality and she mentions Medupi and Kusile. Hon Deputy Speaker, via you, which universe does hon member Nkondlo live in?

Hon Deputy Speaker, Medupi and Kusile are not coming online soon. We were at Stage 4 loadshedding yesterday. We have Stage 3 loadshedding today. So there is nothing to thank the President for.

The reason we are here today is because of the ANC-led Government. The reason National Parliament had to back Eskom to temporarily suspend loadshedding for the rest of the country, so 400 members could pass a budget, was because of the ANC. Despite decades later Medupi and Kusile are not coming online, hon Deputy Speaker. Tens of billion rand overspent simply being looted.

So I do not know ... [Interjections.], based on her speech, hon Deputy Speaker, which universe does hon member Nkondlo live in when she talks about Kusile and Medupi? It is just unbelievable. It is actually quite bizarre that she could

say something like that.

Hon member Kama – via you, hon Deputy Speaker, and I quote him, he says:

“Only the hypocrite is rotten to the core.”

The hon member Kama obviously speaks about the ANC. He is not speaking about us, because the hon member Kama would have noticed just a few minutes ago, and I would like him to pick up his phone, via you, hon Deputy Speaker, and go to the City of Joburg’s Twitter account, and I am going to quote some Tweets for you, hon member Kama, via the hon Deputy Speaker, from the City of Johannesburg’s Twitter account:

“Outage at Houtkoppes. Outage at Boothill. Outage at Sebokeng.
Outage at Eskom Marlborough.”

This is the City of Joburg the hon member Kama wants to put up here as the city who is going to invest in renewables. What kind of a city, that cannot keep its lights on, has an intention of spending money on a renewable city? Yet yesterday, while the rest of the country was on stage Level 4, the City of Cape Town, under the DA-led Government, was on stage Level 3. We could have done better obviously, was it not for the ANC-led Government.

The hon member Kama went further. He talked about safety and security, but, hon member Kama, via you, hon Deputy Speaker, the only reason we have the

Safety Plan, because the ANC-led Government fails to keep this country safe. That is why we have this debate. Otherwise I would not have brought this debate to the House.

So, hon member Kama, to quote you:

“Only the hypocrite is rotten to the core.”

And the hypocrite is the ANC.

Hon member Kama, just another quote that comes to mind, from the City of Joburg’s Twitter account:

“We are aware of block Level 1 that was not restored after loadshedding.”

I repeat, hon Deputy Speaker:

“We are aware of block Level 1 that was not restored after loadshedding.”

Hon member Kama, I suggest you visit City of Joburg where you will be in the dark the whole day.

“Only the hypocrite is rotten to the core.”

That is the ANC, hon members of this House.

Hon members, hon member Dr Ivan Meyer talks about the Gun Bill, and what is quite sad, via you, hon Deputy Speaker, not one member of the ANC has said anything about this draconian Bill that wants to disarm all of us. The last line of defence.

Yet we saw the last few days ANC members wax lyrical about Jeremy Vearey, even a You Tube clip from a national Member of Parliament, ANC Faiez Jacobs, about Jeremy Vearey. Yet the citizens of this province, 6 million people, are being disarmed by the ANC members of Parliament, and not one of them have the decency to say, "Do not disarm our citizens, do not let our citizens become victims of crimes." That is:

"The hypocrites are rotten to the core."

Hon member Kama, via you, hon Deputy Speaker, that is your ANC.

The hypocritic ANC, hon Deputy Speaker, via you, as we sit here, just outside Luthuli House, the bastion of corruption, staff members of the ANC marching to their own head office.

"The hypocrite is rotten to the core."

Hon members, that is the ANC. They did not say one word. The party that is

supposed to fight for the poor, from the Western Cape, where their own staff members had a bleak Christmas, because they fail to deal with them properly. Now their staff members at their head office do not have money to pay their bonds, hon – same like Denel, who is governed by the ANC.

“Only the hypocrite is rotten to the core.”

That core is the core of what is rotten in this country and that is the ANC Government, and for South Africa to succeed, the ANC must step aside, and the ANC must die, hon members.

“The hypocrite is rotten to the core.”

The ANC is that hypocrite, hon members, and, hon members, hon member Herron also, based on the three questions that he asked, and I can give him the facts. As a member of the Ad Hoc Committee he should be aware of it.

Just last week 15% of all active vaccination sites in South Africa were in the City of Cape Town. Just 40% of the sites in the six big cities in the Northern Cape, the Free State and the North West still has 20 sites and fewer. The Western Cape and KZN are the only provinces exceeding the national average.

So on your questions, hon member Herron, yes, yes and yes, hon Deputy Speaker.

Based on hon member Kama's other input he gave earlier about the DA policies ensuring women and children gets raped, that is ludicrous, hon Deputy Speaker, absolute ludicrous to even make such a statement that he made earlier on, because the policies that the DA Government is implementing, is to stop what the ANC Government has done.

They have destroyed the Gang Unit. If it was not for us to beg for the reinstatement of the Gang Unit.

On the oversight visit, by the way, which the ANC members did not bother to come to, the national laboratory, we found a hundred thousand lab DNA samples backlog. That is a disgrace and an ultimate spit in the face of victims of gender-based violence, victims of rape, victims of murder, because the DNA samples that are supposed to get the criminals in jail, are sitting in a lab in Platteklouf and now that is hypocritical to the core, which is the ANC Government.

They destroyed the police in the Western Cape, they destroyed the electricity generation capacity with Eskom, and they destroyed our opportunity to fight crime by reducing the police by nearly 4,000 members in the Western Cape.

So:

“Hypocrite to the core.”

That is the ANC, hon Deputy Speaker. I thank you.

†n AGB LID: Hoor-hoor!

[An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. That brings us to the end of our list of speakers, and that concludes the debate on this subject.

[Debate concluded.]

I now recognise the Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. With the concurrence of the members posing oral questions, I would like to ask that oral Question 3 and 4 stand over, please.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much to the Chief Whip. We will now deal with these questions as printed on the ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: A point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ... Question Paper.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: A point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: One minute. Hon member Dugmore, what is your point of order?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, I would just like to raise a point of order in regard to the information provided by the Chief Whip.

I am very concerned of a consistent tendency now where MECs either do not arrive, or are not available for Interpellations, or they are not in the House when questions are asked.

I think this is simply unacceptable. Everyone knows that they have a responsibility to account to this House on a Thursday, and I want to ask you to please, hon Deputy Speaker, investigate this matter, establish what exactly were the reasons provided, and that this House discusses, and we have your view in regard to this tendency on behalf of the MECs of this Province, thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The hon member Dugmore has been a member longer than I have, so he will know what the process is for oral questions.

The members who posed the questions have agreed, or asked, that the questions stand over, and it is their prerogative to ask that those questions stand over, which is what they have done.

If it were his question and he did not agree for that question to stand over, that would be a different matter. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is quite correct, thank you very much.

We will now move over to Questions. Please may I advise and remind our members that there are four opportunities for follow-up questions, and the hon member who posed the question has the first opportunity for a follow-up.

So we will only deal with Question 1, Question 2 and Question 5. I now recognise hon Minister Meyer.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

African Continental Free Trade Area

1. Mr A P van der Westhuizen asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(a) In what industries and/or subsectors does his Department expect to experience growth as a result of the recently established African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA) and (b) what initiatives are being considered to support the aforementioned?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The following Western Cape agricultural products currently show the biggest potential for export growth into member countries of the Africa Free Trade area:

- Oranges, both fresh and dried;
- Clementines, both fresh and dried;
- Lemons and lime, both fresh and dried;
- Grapefruit, fresh and dried;
- Grapes, fresh and dried;
- Fresh apples;
- Fresh pears;
- Unfermented apple juice;
- Wine, in bottle or in bulk;
- Ciders;
- [Inaudible.] and meat;
- Jams, jellies, marmalades, purees or paste of fruit;
- Flour;
- Meats;
- Pallets of fish.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Department has recently completed a diagnostic and design evaluation of the post-COVID-19 future of the Western Cape agriculture and agri-processing. One of the five improvement objectives flowing from the recommendations of this report, is to develop and implement a strategy focused on the rising middle class, on the African

continent as a market for Western Cape products.

To this end the Department has included the following outputs in its subsequent implementation plan:

- Complete a strategic Africa report in 2022.
- Prepare an annual Africa Rising periodical publication.
- Support market development in selected countries on the African continent.
- Support trade facilitation.
- Also establish strategic partnerships and exchange with specific areas on the African continent.
- Support the mechanisms to address soft and hard blockages in terms of our trade.

Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. I recognise hon member Van der Westhuizen, and then I recognise hon member Dugmore.

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Through you to the Minister.

Minister, thank you for the information and it is heart-warming to learn that

your Department is poised to support those farmers and agri-processors that would like to focus on what you call the “rising middle class” north of our borders.

My question is, what do you believe is impeding or holding back further growth in our exports to other African countries? And do you believe that the complaints from exporters about delays experienced at Cape Town harbour affecting fruit exports, are founded? I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, as members would know that the Western Cape represents 50% of all of South Africa’s agricultural exports, and we currently see that there are some challenges at the Cape Town harbour.

My colleague, the Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities, had numerous engagements with the Ports Authority, the Cape Town harbour, and I am deeply concerned about the inefficiencies happening at the Cape Town harbour.

We have to get this right, because if we want to grow our export capability, particularly not only on the African continent, but also in the rest of the world, we need to fix the situation at the ports, and that I am thankful that the Chairperson of the Standing Committee of Economic Development, has

agreed to also host a discussion on this matter, also to host this discussion together with the Standing Committee Chair and the Committee on Agriculture and the Environment, but also pay a personal visit to the harbour and that particular authority.

It is of critical importance that we improve the efficiency and the industry. I had some discussions with the citrus fruit growers, and they are willing to assist to create greater efficiency at the harbour, and we certainly are busy with some further discussion, but I have to stress, given where we are in South Africa, given the current challenges at the harbour, we must support all programmes that can kickstart the economy and lead to economic recovery in South Africa.

We know from the figures that we have seen last year in 2020, all the sectors of the economy had negative economic growth in 2020, and it was only the agricultural sector that had positive economic growth, and so we need to continue the export, particularly from the harbour, because I do not think it is fair to ask our citrus producers to export some of their products via the harbour in Port Elizabeth or the harbour in Durban, because that puts another layer of additional cost on their export and the profit margins.

So I am concerned, hon member of the Standing Committee, the Chair, Andricus van der Westhuizen, but we will continue in the spirit of resilience, engage with the national authorities and make a breakthrough in this regard.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Dugmore and then hon member Marran.

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

I would just like to ask the MEC, as a follow-up question, that no doubt he is aware of the support which has been expressed by agricultural organisations and the business sector for the work which the ANC National Government has done in terms of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement, and other agreements, which in fact are assisting both farmers and farmworkers in our province and nationally, given the work that our National Government has done.

Would he agree with those organisations representing organised agriculture, that the National Government is indeed doing a huge amount to assist our farmers in the country and the province? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over to you, Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, the Constitution of South Africa is quite clear. The issue of agriculture is a concurrent responsibility and hence my Department works with the various institutions

responsible for stimulating the economic growth.

One of the things that we are committed to is to grow the economy within the framework of the inter-governmental framework, inter-governmental cooperation and where necessary, I think this shows that it is possible, beyond the boundaries of politics, to make a difference.

We need less politics and more economic growth in this particular space, and therefore I support the citrus growers here in the Western Cape, I support the Western Cape Economic Forum, I support AFASA, I support the Agri Western Cape, I support [Inaudible.], I support all the institutions and national bodies and provincial bodies and my colleagues, the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, and Wesgro, because this shows that we can indeed, despite our political boundaries, make a breakthrough in terms of exporting agricultural products, because from the Western Cape, hon Deputy Speaker, as you know, 14% of all the fruit from, not from the Western Cape, from South Africa, 14% of the fruit goes to the United Kingdom; 44% of all the fruit that are exported from South Africa, goes to the European Union, and to get into that market requires inter-governmental cooperation, and I am thankful for my predecessors, the current Premier, Alan Winde, campaigning for more export; the current Deputy Speaker, Beverly Schäfer, during her term of office. She fought hard to grow our exports, working together with the MINMEC in the National Department, and I am very happy that those things are now coming to fruition.

So yes, this is a collective effort of everybody involved, and I am particularly happy that workers can now benefit from these trade relations on the African continent. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Minister. Hon member Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, thank you very much, and good afternoon to everyone present.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I just want to check with the MEC, although there was a delay with the kickstart of the trade agreement from July last year up to January this year, whether the items listed by the MEC himself, whether there were any exports through the African countries from January this year up till now, and if so, what are those items that has been exported? Thanks.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, the hon member Pat Marran asked me specifically which products from the Western Cape were exported from January up to now in terms of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement.

I would be very happy to come back to the House to give him the specific details in terms of the commodities, but also in terms of the timeframes when

these things were exported on the African continent.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any further follow-up questions?

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Oh, is that – over to you again, hon member Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, ja, to the MEC again. MEC, do you foresee that there will be a decline of – you are saying that all exports of South Africa, the Cape Town harbour is responsible for 50% of all exports.

Do you see a decline in exports through the Cape Town harbour because of the African Trade Agreement that has been signed by African countries?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over to you, Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon member Pat Marran, when I assumed this office I set myself a goal to increase our market access and our exports by 5% over the next five years.

Our calculations indicate that that will translate into creating 19,000 new jobs. We have done a study in 2014 by the MERO, the Municipal Economic

Review and Outlook, as well as the PERO, the Provincial Economic Review and Outlook, and during my previous term as the Minister of Finance, I have tabled in this House a report that indicated that since 2014 we are now, from the Western Cape, exporting more products on the African continent. So that was prior to the African Free Continental Agreement.

I expect, based on the rationale, that we will export more on the African continent because there are also some greater benefits. These exports not only go via the harbour, these exports are also going through land, particularly in Namibia, biggest partners in terms of the trade between the Western Cape and Namibia, Botswana, as well as Zambia and other African countries.

So I do not foresee a reduction in the export of the products through the harbour. In fact, I anticipate a greater export because we have seen that during COVID-19 there is a huge appetite for – in fact, we have seen permanent a behavioural change in terms of people’s preferences for their diets, for their food. I want to export more ostriches [Inaudible.] to the rest of the world.

We are now seeing great progress in terms of citrus. In fact South Africa is the second biggest citrus exporter in the world, and the ninth biggest citrus producer in the world, and Limpopo is South Africa’s biggest producer of citrus, and I regularly engage with the Citrus Growers Association, because we need to get foreign, †buitelandse valuta, want Suid-Afrika het dit bitter

nodig en daarom sien ons ook tendense van Suid-Afrika se landbou as geheel, dat 50% van al Suid-Afrika se landbou-uitvoerprodukte is ook geormerk vir die Afrika-kontinent, en ek voorsien, hon member Marran, dat dit eerder gaan toeneem eerder as afneem. As ons in ag neem, hon member Marran [Tussenwerpsels.] [foreign currency, because South Africa needs it very much and therefore we also see trends of South Africa's agriculture as a whole, that 50% of all South Africa's agricultural export products is also earmarked for the African continent, and I foresee, hon member Marran, that it is going to increase rather than decrease. If we take into account, hon member Marran [Interjections.] ...]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please proceed.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon member Marran, you will appreciate that a country like Germany needs about 400,000 migrant workers to work in the agricultural sector in Germany. With COVID-19 the borders were closed, which means there are less workers, particularly from Eastern Europe, to work on the farms – Poland – for example, less workers to work on the productive lands in Germany. I suspect that will lead to a greater demand. There will be a shortage of agricultural products in Germany, and I see that as a great opportunity for us in the Western Cape to export more of our agricultural products also into the European Union, particularly Germany and France.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. That brings us to the end

of Question 1. We will now begin Question 2. Back to you, hon Minister.

Agri-worker transport

2. Mr A P van der Westhuizen asked the Minister of Agriculture:

With reference to his media statement, dated 16 March 2021, relating to agri-worker transport:

Whether he has made any progress in discussing with his counterparts the need to amend Regulation 247 of the National Transport Regulations?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. To hon member Chairperson of the Standing Committee, Mr Van der Westhuizen.

Yes, rural safety, as a priority of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, requires engagement of relevant stakeholders, as well as farmers, producers, to ensure a safe, protected and sustainable agricultural sector.

Therefore, to address and find solutions to the issue of safety transportation of agri-workers, stakeholder engagement and collaboration with industry partners, organised agriculture producers and agri-workers are paramount, and I want to put it on record, hon Deputy Speaker, I am thankful for members of the Standing Committee, including hon member Marran, for raising this issue beyond the party-political boundaries, because it is the safety of agri-workers.

It is my concern, it is a concern of the Committee, it is a concern of this Western Cape Parliament, it is the concern of everybody in this province.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture engaged with the Department of Transport and Public Works, the Road Safety Management Unit in that Department, regarding the transportation of agri-workers and will be collaborating on road safety interventions. These interventions will include joint road safety awareness campaigns on farms, and integrated traffic operations on identified agricultural routes where agri-workers and agricultural produce are transported.

In addition, engagement with organised agriculture, especially Agri Western Cape, is currently underway to explore alternative safe modes of transport for agri-workers. This is non-negotiable. I want to see the safety of agri-workers guaranteed in this transportation.

One focus area will be on various vehicle designs and proposed loading capacities of these vehicle designs, to enhance safety of agri-workers.

Furthermore, the same matter was tabled at the Standing Committee for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, hon Deputy Speaker, on 18 May 2020. The proposed amendment of Regulation 247 of the National Traffic Regulations, which legislates the circumstances under which persons may be carried or transported on goods, vehicles on public roads; it is a national mandate and the MEC of Agriculture and the Department will

continue to engage the mandated departments, including the National Department of Transport, through our Provincial Department of Transport, to find amicable solutions to the issue of safe transportation of agri-workers.

The regulatory framework is a secondary piece of legislation and then recommendations from the Standing Committee will be conveyed to the national Department, and I really appreciate that the Standing Committee has made this also a priority of this Legislature.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Hon member Van der Westhuizen, do you want a follow-up question?

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Yes, please, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over to you.

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Hon Deputy Speaker, through you to the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon Minister, since the Western Cape is not the only province in which employees are put at risk by being transported on goods vehicles, are you aware of initiatives in other provinces to also improve the safe transport of particularly seasonal workers? And if not, what do you believe is needed to secure the support of your colleagues in other provinces to push for amended traffic regulations?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over to you, Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, I am not personally aware, and I do not want to speculate about transportation of agri-workers in other provinces, but I think by implication in your question, is a suggestion that it might be a good thing to also raise this matter at the National MINMEC, (a) to determine whether this is a problem also in other provinces, (b) how can we collectively, as the MECs for Agriculture in the nine provinces, together with the National Minister of Agriculture, also engage with the National Minister of Transport, to affect regulatory change.

This matter, we can have protocols in place, but I think it is now time, because I have visited, like hon member Marran, relatives of people who have died on the roads as a result of being transported on open vehicles, and I think it is now the time to get greater regulatory enforcements, and therefore we need to persuade our colleagues in the MINMEC to do exactly this, and I will put this on the agenda of the next MINMEC, and I will report back to the Standing Committee in this regard.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon member Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, thanks. Hon Deputy Speaker, to the MEC, besides Regulation 247 of the National Transport Regulations, we also got Section, the Sectoral Determination 13, who also, hon Deputy Speaker, prescribes how workers should be transported in a safe manner.

I just wanted to check with the MEC whether he has basically spoken to the new Minister of Public Works and Transport in the Western Cape regarding that specific issue, the safe transport of workers?

Also, hon Deputy Speaker, I also want to check with the MEC, as I have said besides 247, we also got the lockdown regulations, and there was basically a proposal by the Standing Committee, that the National Minister of COGTA should be engaged to see whether some of those recommendations can be included in the lockdown regulations, specifically the 50/50 issue. The 50% of the mass allowed on those trucks. Whether that particular issue was communicated with the Minister and if not, why not? Thanks.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you, hon member Marran, for the question.

He asked whether I have consulted with the newly appointed Cabinet colleague, Minister Daylin Mitchell, the answer is no. Will I do? Absolutely. His hands are currently full with the taxi situation, and I undertake to take this matter up in this month, and I will report back to the Standing Committee in this regard.

In terms of the lockdown regulations. Yes, there is a 50/50 protocol. We have shared this information in terms of the transport protocols during the lockdown period. This has been widely shared with both commercial agriculture and also

the emerging farmers. This was widely communicated at numerous platforms, and the question is, did we communicate the recommendations of the Standing Committee to the National Minister of COGTA.

Well, I have not seen the specific regulations, recommendations from the Standing Committee, and I would be very happy to receive that, hon Deputy Speaker, and once I have received it, I will certainly take this matter up with my colleague, the Minister of Local Government, Minister Anton Bredell, because he liaises on behalf of this Government with the COGTA National Minister in terms of the Disaster Management Regulations.

So I will certainly take this up, both with the Minister of Transport and Public Works, and the Minister of Local Government, and I will certainly report back to the Standing Committee.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Any further follow-up questions? No? Right, that brings us to the end of Question 2. We move over to Question 5. I recognise hon Minister Mbombo.

Steenberg, Lavender Hill and Sea Winds: recent shootings and killings

3. Mr F C Christians asked the Minister of Community Safety:

With reference to the recent shootings and killings in Steenberg, Lavender Hill and Sea Winds:

Whether measures are in place to bring an end the violence of this nature; if not, (a) why not and (b) when will measures be put in place; if so, what are the relevant details?

[Question stands over.]

Service-delivery protests: impact on traffic

4. Mr F C Christians asked the Minister of Transport and Public Works:

With reference to the service-delivery protest that blocked the R300 and had a negative impact on the flow of traffic, as well as a similar incident that took place in July 2020:

Whether any steps are being taken to prevent an occurrence like this; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

[Question stands over.]

Emergency Medical Services personnel: protection of

5. Ms N Makamba-Botya asked the Minister of Health:

With reference to an article published on 26 May 2021 in the *Cape Argus* titled: "Cape Town paramedics allegedly forced to pay protection money

to extortion rings”:

Whether her Department has systems in place to protect the Emergency Medical Services personnel in areas where there are high crime rates; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) how was the systems utilised with regard to the matter in the article?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Can you hear me?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can hear you loud and clear.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Okay. Thank you for the question from hon member Makamba-Botya in reference to the EMS.

The extortion syndicate matter has never been raised with us by EMS officials themselves, nor with the Department, but we are currently investigating the claims as reported in the news media.

The safety of our paramedics is high priority for us in the Department. We continually explore new ways to ensure that our staff can return home safely every day. We do have an EMS staff safety plan that details our initiatives. This has not changed and the efforts are ongoing. The last time I even launched a Khuseleka Campaign at the time that we had quite a huge number of attacks on EMS.

Part of the plan is to ensure that whenever paramedics enter a red zone area, or if they suspect that there is a danger that is looming, they are being escorted by the police. We ask members of the community to report incidences to the nearest police station without a delay.

The EMS, as we know that they perform an essential service, and as you know that according to the South African Constitution, Section 27, it talks about no one should be denied medical care.

But now the community themselves attack our staff. It means that that ordinary person will end up being denied the emergency medical services, and unlike with the other essential services across, whether it is from a municipality or wherever, when there is a danger or there is unrest, they could be told that the services will be withdrawn because of the unrest, but with the EMS they are always there, no matter what.

So in our safety plan all our staff is offered counselling and treatment through the Employee Assistance Programme. We make sure that part of the other interventions is about the dedicated safety desk with its own channel to monitor crews operating red zones.

Up to date you must understand that intelligence regarding the red zones and the no-go zone areas are being declared by the police, not by us.

Standard procedure to utilise law enforcement escorts in red zones is part of

the intervention, and across we have got community engagement groups so that they have become informed in case where it becomes quite urgent, that we have to withdraw our services in those particular areas.

Regular engagement with the Organised Labour Task Team collaborating in our security and safety zones is part of all of that. We work very closely, hon member Makamba-Botya, with SAPS. We really appreciate even last time when we ended up having to take these matters to court, they make sure that they provide us with all the information that is required, so that it does not only become that, it becomes a crime related to assault, but that it has impacted on the availability of the services that could or might have caused someone also to have severe illnesses because of the unavailability of the EMS. Thank you, Chair.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Hon member Makamba-Botya, do you want a follow-up question?

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: [No audible response.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No? I then – I think, hon member Marran, that is your old hand. So I am going to assume that hon member Windvogel was next and then hon member Philander.

Over to you, hon member Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, to the MEC.

MEC, given that the attacks on EMS personnel affects the waiting times tremendously, to what extent [Inaudible.] and personnel affects the EMS, and how is your Government addressing that? Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: As I indicated earlier, it has to be the whole of society approach, because with the EMS we are talking about the human beings who also would be scared, understandably, if they have to go to an area where there is unrest.

So that is why we rely on the locals, in addition to the escort by the police, and it is true, hon member Windvogel, because now when we have to wait, going via the police station in order to be escorted, it does have an impact on the waiting times, and in some cases actually we have seen where a community will even attack them as well as the police, or they are attacking the police that are escorting even the healthcare workers.

That is why even when they have to come into those areas, they will have to make sure, the EMS, that they just load without even assessing the patient. They can assess the patient, the other one, whilst still driving, and unfortunately we cannot militarise or securitise health services, because

sometimes they will say that, “Why do you not have security inside?” We cannot, because health is what it is all about, the confidentiality and all of those.

So that is why we appeal to everyone to be able to assist, because it does have an impact on the ordinary [Inaudible.] and the child who probably might be looking for this ambulance.

In the matter of, for example, together with the City of Cape Town, where they are – what do you call it? I cannot remember, but it is in Goodwood, where you will find that they are using their cameras all over, and also in their own desk we have got even the EMS and also the Neighbourhood Watches, and also some of the police.

It makes it easier, for example, when they get a call, already if there are some dangers around that area, the City is able to inform us immediately. Also because the City are in the same WhatsApp group with some of these Neighbourhood Watches, if there is a likelihood that there might be immediate dangers even before some of us or anyone might know, because they are people who are residing in those areas, they do keep us informed.

So yes, indeed, that is not only in the Metro, because, for example, there was a time in Chicago, Paarl East, where we had these issues. In Bredeville, in Avian Park where we had these issues, it helped when the communities themselves assisted. You should have seen in Khayelitsha were the Community

Health Forum, Khayelitsha Development Health Forum, even took it upon themselves to ensure that the EMSs are protected. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Hon member Philander.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, through you.

Minister, thanks so much for you and your Department for the Khuseleka Campaign initiative, and we also certainly welcome the Employee Wellness, which is standard procedure.

Minister, with regard to the attacks on EMS staff, roughly this past few years, how many incidents were there, and where there perhaps any fatalities?

And then Minister also made mention of the hotspot areas just now. Does the Department or you, Minister, find that these recent incidents take place outside of these hotspot areas? And how quick is the South African Police Service to respond to these cases? Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Ja, thank you. Yes, as I indicated earlier these red zones are identified by the intelligence from the SAPS themselves, and then they communicate.

So that is why they keep on changing, because there might be some time where you will find that an area was not part of the red zone. I think there was a time, I think it is Matroosfontein, where it was not part of the red zone, but something happened, and then it has to be defined as such.

For example, recently with the unrest, there was a protest in Nyanga, across that area. Whilst other services, the bus and others, where it had to be stopped, it had to be withdrawn, but unfortunately you cannot withdraw the EMS, but you have to rely on them, because actually they do even have the right to say that, "I am not going to go there." But we have such a dedicated staff who are able to soldier on, and note that we have improved, even our vehicles have improved quite a lot in regard to have some of these required digitals and all of those, so that you avoid the situation, because in some instances you will find that the attack would have been about maybe a *skollie*, a drug addict, who just wants something that will be faster in order to to sell, and also to get his or her own fix.

And then in some instances you will find that [Inaudible.] spoken to, I mean to inform them that [Inaudible.] their telephones, mobiles, they should not be exposing such publicly so that they attract such *skollies*.

However, having said that [Interjections.], it should not be, we should not be in a situation ...[Interjections.]

†'n AGB LID: Ons moenie in 'n situasie wees [Onduidelik.]

[An HON MEMBER: We should not be in a situation [Inaudible.]]

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ... where the healthcare workers, specifically the Emergency Medical Services, have to even undergo that trauma of just even thinking about their lives when they are going there to save lives.

In Africa, in countries with a civil war, healthcare workers have never been part of – everyone, even where they are fighting the battle, you find that the hospitals, they will never bomb the hospitals, they will never attack the EMS, but across South Africa, not only in the Western Cape, the communities that need them mostly are the ones that actually attack them. That is one part of it, and then secondly, you must understand that one ambulance takes about 11 staff a shift – I am talking about the 24 hour shift – meaning now if you ended up having one or two ambulances out of the system because the staff might be on sick leave, it does have a huge impact in terms of responding to these kind of situations.

Therefore we appeal to the people that it is not only about the people, but it is also about the breach of the Constitution, because it means that you end up not realising Section 27, that everyone has got to have access to emergency medical services, because you are traumatising our staff, and actually among our health professionals EMS are the ones that have got a high level of stress, and also absenteeism because of this issue, because in most instances there are two, of course, and some of them are young, very young women, where they ended up not only being afraid of being attacked, but also of the possibility they could

be sexually assaulted. Thank you.

[The Speaker takes the Chair.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon members, good afternoon. We are now moving to Members' Statements. I now give the opportunity to the DA.

MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Mr G BOSMAN: Good afternoon, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, failure to organise will put our teachers at risk. Whilst the Democratic Alliance welcomes the move for teachers to be vaccinated as a priority group, we need Government to have the right measures in place to manage this process.

Sadly we do not have much confidence in National Government when it comes to being organised.

It is no secret that the Central Vaccination Plan has been prolonged due to Pretoria's incompetence, ranging from procurement delays to an unstable National Registration System. The time for so-called teething issues is long gone, and the system should have been piloted and ironed out almost a year ago.

However, hon Speaker, the difference is in this Province we have already supported vaccination registration process in two ways. Firstly by ensuring

timeous communication to qualified vaccine beneficiaries, and secondly our Department of Education is laying the groundwork by already providing the necessary vaccine information to teachers and SGBs.

We must ask this, hon Speaker, what is missing? And the answer is obvious: the National Government has not yet opened the EVDS system for the next set of vaccination beneficiaries, and this needed to happen some time ago to enable those people to register to receive their jabs, on the system, and to get ready to know where and when they should go for their vaccination.

Nevertheless, we are confident in our provincial mechanisms which work efficiently and ironing out the issues that are created by the ANC Central Government. This is vital as we work towards achieving population immunity and a proper recovery of our economic and social lives. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Bosman. Hon members, I now recognise the ANC.

Is there a speaker for the ANC?

An HON MEMBER: Loadshedding, oh no.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members ...[Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you. Thank you ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: I now ...[Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: †Enkosi Somlomo. [Thank you Speaker]. The 1994 democratic breakthrough meant that a once rich [Inaudible.] yes, hon Speaker, am I audible?

The SPEAKER: You may proceed – okay, yes.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Can I ...

The SPEAKER: Yes, hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: [Inaudible.] the 1994 democratic breakthrough meant that a once racially oppressive pariah state had successfully transformed into a republic based on freedom, the rule of law and human rights.

Before this, the country had gone through centuries of racial rule, oppression and land dispossession, using repressive laws such as the 1913 Land Act and the Expropriation Act 63 of 1975. As part of the social contract with the people, we had to repeal apartheid legislation, which resulted in disproportionate distribution of and inequitable access to land and property, replacing it with new progressive legislation driven by a democratic agenda.

The Expropriation Bill 2020 is in line with this, as it seeks to provide for a just and equitable process to restore the dignity of all citizens in addressing access to property and land.

The ANC supports the passing of this Bill as it clearly provides for equitable socio-economic transformation. The Bill is a clear dealing and departure from the entrapment of the old order, and closing of colonial and apartheid rules.

The Western Cape still resembles the old apartheid rule as the DA remains steadfast in using land and property to further entrench the apartheid spatial legacy and racial segregation, by pushing the black majority, including women and youth, to the outskirts of the city, far from the mainstream economic centres.

The ANC calls on all the people of the province to attend the four public hearings on the Expropriation Bill in their numbers, from today, 10 June, in Cederberg, till the last one, Sunday, 13 June, in Knysna, to provide National Parliament a resounding mandate to amend the Bill.

In the last hearing in the Western Cape, people were unapologetic about their demand for land to be shared equally. We applaud the ANC and progressive forces that stood firm in driving this agenda against the apartheid apologists and agents of exclusions, like the DA. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Nkondlo. Hon members, I now

recognise the EFF.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: †Enkosi Somlomo. [Thank you Speaker.] The EFF condemns in the strongest terms the selective and racist approach that continues to be taken by City of Cape Town every time when incidents of tree poisoning are reported.

It has now come to the attention of the EFF in the Western Cape that in recent months when incidents of fruit tree poisoning are reported, which threaten the lives of innocent, poor, black children, then the City does not act in terms of conducting an investigation and making sure that the perpetrators of these crimes are brought to book.

However, in cases where a poisoned tree bears no fruit and its existence is just for the pleasure of white people, then the City will leave no stone unturned in its quest to investigate and find the perpetrators of such an act.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The case in point is the one of the Tokai resident, by the name of Mr Arthur McKey, who reported that he invited children, who happened to be people of colour, to come and pick up fruits in his garden. Apparently, this noble gesture from Arthur McKey did not sit well with some racist white people in the community, who told him that his gesture is attracting the wrong kind of people into their lovely, upmarket suburb. When these white racists realised that

Arthur was unmoved by their racist utterances, they then began vandalising his yard and poisoning his fruit trees in order to spite him and those kids who fed from these trees. This matter was reported to the City of Cape Town for investigation purposes since these kids of colour have been picking up and eating poisoned fruit whilst unaware. The City still did not act, nor did the personnel act. The City of Cape Town will do anything to protect the racist white people of this province at the cost of the lives of poor children of colour. I thank you, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Makamba-Botya. Hon members, I now recognise the DA.

Ms L M MASEKO (DA): Thank you very much, Speaker. Hon Speaker, I urge residents to make their voices heard at the public hearings scheduled in Langa, Beaufort West and Knysna over the next three days. These hearings are an opportunity to speak out against the dangers of the ANC's Expropriation Bill. This piece of draft legislation would put a massive roadblock in the way of home-ownership and by doing that, it can deny residents their right to receive their title deeds with actual ownership of the property they deserve to call home. The very meaning and value of a title deed would become null and void, thanks to the rotten ANC.

Secondly, the current Bill effectively says that whether you own a piece of land, a car or any other kind of asset, Government can take it away from you. It also creates loopholes which could encourage further land invasions and

harm our efforts to develop affordable housing.

And finally, Speaker, we must also ask whether we can trust the ANC or any other party in government with such legislation. This has the potential to bring back reminders of apartheid-style forced removals. Those are wounds that must never be reopened. Instead, what we need is effective implementation of land reform, rather than dangerous legislation. That is why this Western Cape Government has worked endlessly to give our residents security through owning their own homes. For that reason, Provincial Government is using its own funding through the Asset Finance Reserve to transfer over 8 000 title deeds to qualifying beneficiaries this year. We ask all governments at every sphere, to work with us to bring about meaningful transformation and justice through ownership. Ownership, not for the State, but in the hands of the people. Speaker, I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Maseko. Hon members, I now recognise the ACDP.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, Speaker. Speaker, the ACDP in the Western Cape is concerned and appalled that there are calls to publicly apologise by the learners of the D F Malan School because they objected to celebrate Pride Month at their school. Why should learners now be subjected to educational seminars for learners and educators to promote inclusion? The ACDP wants to agree with the D F Malan School governing body Chairperson, Mr Andre Roux, where the school rejected the request for the Pride celebration

on the school's premises on the basis of the belief that, according to Mr Roux, it could lead to tension and division within the school. As the ACDP, we do not condone any acts of intimidation or violence by the learners, but why should the Pride celebration be introduced at our schools?

According to the Word of God, God created male and female, and we as the ACDP will push a strong Christian agenda that offers a solution to this beautiful country. We are reminded by the Word of God, and it is clear in 2 Chronicles 7:14:

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

This country and province must say ‘no’ to polygamy, must say ‘no’ to polyandry and ‘no’ to same-sex toilets. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. Hon members, I now recognise the ANC.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, Speaker. It is for no little reason that the ANC throughout its history has always pursued a struggle for a non-racial, non-sexist South Africa where everyone shares in the wealth of the country. We have always believed that the evils of racism, sexism, and classism are

connected, and that they continue to persist within our society. As a movement and as a government, the ANC sees its role to fight these scourges.

It therefore comes as no surprise to us that our province has begun to be exposed to numerous sexual harassment and sexual assault cases within our provincial administration and in our DA-run municipalities. When the DA perpetuates past privilege and when the DA denies race, it is only natural that sexism will also persist in the DA and where it governs. Sexual harassment and sexual assaults are only serious symptoms of a sexist institutional culture.

We have seen the DA harbour and cover up racist leaders and members. We have seen the DA, through its policies, encourage and enhance the lives of the haves and spending of very few resources in comparison to the have-nots. Now we see the DA cover up and defend those men suspected of serious crimes and gender-based violence within the provincial administration and within DA-run municipalities. The people of the Western Cape and South Africa must realise what they are voting for when voting for the DA, a party which has committed to be denialist about race, class and gender. I thank you, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip of the Opposition, thank you very much. I now recognise the DA.

Ms W F PHILANDER (DA): Speaker, only in South Africa can we find that a National Minister of Health is placed on special leave during a global health pandemic, and this is to focus on his alleged implication in corruption. Not

only has Minister Mkhize's family members seemingly benefitted from dodgy deals in a tender awarded to ANC aligned Digital Vibes, the Minister himself is reported to have signed off the irregular business. This flies in the face of his previous attempts to distance himself from the entire matter. The R150 million missing at this stage may be a drop in the ocean compared to what has already been lost due to corruption; it is, nonetheless, appalling to note.

Speaker, it has now been three years since the start of the State Capture Inquiry. It has clearly demonstrated – my apologies, Speaker, I just had a difficulty – it has clearly demonstrated all that is wrong with South Africa and the root of this is the failure of the National Government to put a start to the end of corruption. I am afraid this special leave will lead to nothing other than yet another public service excuse and all this, whilst billions are continuously pocketed from hardworking residents.

Speaker, it is time that we debate the impact of corruption, the years of financial mismanagement out of South Africa's public purse after 27 years, especially on our essential services. We have over 7 million unemployed people in this country. Delays in both the social grants and criminal justice system, whilst merely establishing talk-shows on corruption. Enough is enough. Speaker, we must bring punishment at the polls. I thank you, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Philander. Hon members, I now recognise the Freedom Front Plus, hon Marais.

Mr P MARRAN: We are taking wards in by-elections from the DA.

The SPEAKER: You are not, hon Marais, hon member. Hon Marais is not in the House today. He informed the Speaker, my apologies. May I recognise hon Brinkhuis, Al Jama-Ah?

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, the Provincial Government is failing the youth. The Western Cape Provincial Government is failing the youth by not having all its hands on deck to create employment. The Western Cape Provincial Government must ensure that its goods, services, and purchases are benefitting local communities. The apartheid-era townships are where many of the unemployed people in this province live. Does the Province do oversight at the hospitals, universities, schools and commercial businesses where they buy their goods and services from within the local communities in which they are located?

One acknowledges that the Western Cape might not control the everyday administration of these institutions, but it allocates their budgets and does have a say on how and where it is spent. The Western Cape is by far not doing enough to highlight the economic development and SMME initiatives to the masses in Mitchells Plain, Khayelitsha, etcetera. Instead, unlicensed informal traders in Gatesville and in Mitchells Plain are being hounded like animals and have their goods destroyed or stolen during raids by law enforcement officials.

If this Province is serious about creating jobs and uplifting people, it should

be assisting these traders and not impose unnecessary red tape on them. These traders have youths to support at school, university and colleges. Is the City using its resources to enhance the economic potential of town centres, such as Mitchells Plain? Our youth must be uplifted with quality and sustainable jobs. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Brinkhuis. Hon members, I now recognise the DA.

Mr D AMERICA (DA): Thank you, Speaker. Hon Speaker, over the past few weeks, Opposition members have cast aspersions on the work of DA administrations. These allegations carry no weight. They demonstrate clearly that the ANC is out of touch with reality because the reality is that the ANC sends one message: where they govern, they do not care. †Die ANC gee nie om nie. [The ANC does not care.]

From National Government, Stage 4 loadshedding is upon us. This severely impacts the lives of those struggling. In Johannesburg, the City had to return to Treasury a whopping R132 million meant for the upgrading of informal settlements and providing electricity. To add a scandal to this: the MEC for Social Development handed out food parcels during by-elections.

Speaker, the City of Cape Town, as well as this Province, tell a different story and pick up the slack of National Government. Through the City's efforts, over R19 million goes to the social upliftment of vulnerable groups in Cape

Town. Altogether, this money will be divided between 32 partner NGOs. The allocation will be spent on areas ranging from homelessness to youth development, substance abuse and support to ECD centres. The City has also spent R39 million on its emergency food relief programme. In total, 350 soup kitchens will be benefitting from this initiative. This means the City can offer over 200 000 residents a warm meal every day.

Speaker, through you, and to the ANC members in the House, I ask that they urge their colleagues in National Government to work with us, stop their looting, end their corruption and for once, show that they care about the plight of the vulnerable. I thank you, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon America. Hon members, that concludes Members' Statements. In terms of Rule 145(6), I would like to request the hon members in the Executive if they so wish, to utilise the five minutes allocated to them in terms of the Standing Rules. I recognise Hon Minister Schäfer.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Mr Speaker, can you hear me?

The SPEAKER: Yes, you are very audible, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Speaker. I just want to respond to the ACDP's statement. I really find it extremely regrettable that the ACDP wants to deny people who are not the same as they are, the right to feel included and able to express themselves. Inasmuch as I support the right of the ACDP

to express its views, unless it amounts to hate speech as defined in the Constitution, LGBTQIA+ people have the right to feel part of society, which includes our schools. If the allegations are true, that have been reported, they are a disgrace, which is why we are investigating them fully. People should not have to feel that they cannot celebrate things that are important to them because others do not celebrate the same things. Thank you, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I also have a hand of the hon Minister Bredell, the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Planning and Development Planning.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: I now recognise the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I disagree with the hon Makamba-Botya, and I want to ask her that if there is anything that she has got evidence of, then she must go to the police and lay a charge. There is no protection for anybody from the DA's side. So, if she has got any proof of any poisoning of trees etcetera, then she must go. It is her obligation to go to the police and lay a charge.

To the ANC, hon Speaker, the ANC makes certain statements that the DA is

covering up for the haves. The second statement they made is that we do not actually care about the sexual harassment cases, etcetera. I want to state that the Democratic Alliance is a party of rule of law. If there is evidence and these people are found guilty, then we will act as a party and there is no protection for people like that.

But on the haves, you know, it is so ironic, hon Speaker, because we, in every independent research, we are the number one province providing water to poor communities. The number one province in providing sanitation to poor communities, is the DA-run Western Cape. Electricity, sanitation, water provision: all of that, we are number one. If you go to ANC-controlled provinces, you will find bucket toilets and all these kinds of things, playing down on people. Then, they dare to stand up in this House and accuse the DA.

Hon Speaker, you know, it was the ANC who wanted to take us to court during the COVID-19 hard lockdown when we wanted to institute, and we did institute a system through which we provided food to school children. It is the same ANC Government who now suddenly cares for the people, that cut the Public Protector's budget by R400 million. It is the same ANC Government who cut the SIU budget by R40 million. It is the same ANC Government who provided R1 billion to the Zondo Commission to investigate ANC corruption, a commission which cannot put people in jail. It is a waste of taxpayers' money. This is the ANC who wants to grandstand in this House.

To Al Jama-Ah, maybe they must look at their coalition partners, hon

Chairperson. If they can rather help us to fight for the rightful budget, then we will be able to build the necessary schools, health systems that will serve our people. On the informal traders, obviously we must take hands, but we cannot do it without rules. There must be rules because should there be an outbreak or illness tomorrow, they will also then want to blame this Government. We are a government of the rule of law, and we will remain that kind of government. It does not matter what the ANC and Al Jama-Ah are thinking. Thank you, hon Chair. [Interjection.]

Mr P MARRAN: The Western Cape was even number one in 2000 when the ANC was in control. It is nothing new.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon Marran, I ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Exactly, the ANC is useless, man.

The SPEAKER: Order, Hon ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: The DA is also useless.

The SPEAKER: Okay, you can all speak. Who wants to speak? What we are not going to do here is to have a House that descends into chaos because you do not want to observe the Rules. So, I am requesting the hon members to help me manage the House with you. This is our House; it is not my House. I am requesting that you please, so kindly, assist me as the Speaker in this regard.

Hon members, that concludes Members' Statements. We now move to Notices of Motion, which in terms of Rule 151, all the Notices of Motion by the hon members are required to be delivered to the Secretary for placing in the Order Paper. These motions have duly been submitted and published on the Order Paper below the line, as you can see.

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the alarming increase in suicides among learners in the Western Cape.

[Notice of motion printed on the Order Paper.]

Mr G BRINKHUIS: I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the Province's failure to address and act effectively against gangsterism, drug dens and crime on the Cape Flats and in townships.

[Notice of motion printed on the Order Paper.]

The SPEAKER: Now, hon members, in terms of the Motions without Notice, as recorded in Rule 150, I would like to inform the hon members that Rule 150,

motions of condolences, motions of congratulatory nature, were dealt with by the Programming Authority. Those motions where an agreement was reached, include the motions written by hon America, hon Lekker, hon Bosman, hon Christians, hon Brinkhuis, hon Lekker again, hon Dugmore, and hon Bans. All of those motions were submitted and agreed to by the Programming Authority and they are now submitted to this House.

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr D AMERICA: I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the Western Cape Disaster Management Centre for winning a gold award at the 2021 annual Western Cape Government Service Excellence Awards on 2 June; notes in addition that the Centre's COVID-19 Activation Team won the Barrier Breakers Prize; notes that this follows the Centre's stellar performance and service delivery in the midst of the pandemic last year; notes that the members of the team worked 12-hour shifts to ensure that the province as a whole received the necessary support it needed during this period; furthermore notes that vulnerable people in distress were helped on a continual basis and the Centre was able to accommodate in repatriating in excess of 7 000 foreigners to their home countries within the first few months of the lockdown; and notes that if it were not for the Disaster Management Centre's dedication, many would have found themselves in dire situations.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes and pays tribute to a great thinker and Witwatersrand University Professor of Development Economics, Vishnu Padayachee, who died recently at age 69; and thinks of his family, friends and comrades of the struggle who lost an outstanding scholar, a progressive academic and a long-standing activist of the mass democratic revolution.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

Mr G BOSMAN: I move without notice:

That the House notes the passing away of Bert Lintvelt and Chriszelda (Sussie) Jacobs, both of whom died in a car crash; notes that they were known for their iconic braais made from metal guitars; further sends our condolences to their families and friends and wishes them much strength during this time.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: I move without notice:

That the House notes with shock and deep sadness the passing of 15-year-

old Tamar Snyman by her own hand; reaches out to her family with our prayers, condolences and sympathy; notes that it was reported by the *Daily Voice* of 20 May that she was a Grade 10 learner at Scottsville High School; notes that she leaves behind a shocked and saddened father, Arnold, unemployed for three years, and mother, Tamsyn; notes that Tamar was known as ‘happy chappy’ and would have celebrated her 16th birthday on 25 July; and prays for the Spirit of God to draw close to her family, relatives, friends and school community.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

Mr G BRINKHUIS: I move without notice:

That the House notes the sudden passing of Mr Phaldiel Vahed who passed away on 24 May 2021; further notes that Mr Vahed was a well-known community activist and humanitarian not only in Paarl, but throughout the Drakenstein region; acknowledges his contribution in the anti-apartheid struggle and his selfless assistance to the Muslim and non-Muslim community of Mbekweni in Paarl; recognises his unselfish role in assisting with the establishment of the first mosque in Mbekweni; further recognises his humanitarian nature as he showed deep concern over the poor socio-economic conditions of the larger community; also acknowledges that for many years he was part of the leadership of RIWA (Rural Islamic Welfare Association) that played a big role in offering upliftment programmes in the Drakenstein region; and extends

condolences to his wife, Muzna Vahed, children and grandchildren.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes the destruction of public property by violent protesters in areas such as Philippi East and Nyanga, where more than seventy buses were damaged; and calls on all people to report any person who joined this wanton destruction to SAPS and desist from such behaviour; and expresses condolences to families and victims of violence this past week.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: I move without notice:

That the House notes the numerous attempts launched by many people to divide this province and establish an independent island province segregated from the unitarian South Africa; and commends all those who continue to reject such a notion as unviable.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

Ms A P BANS: I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Samkelo “Sam” Mvimbi as the first national hockey player of Knysna and the only one from the Southern Cape who qualified for the Tokyo Olympic Games this year; and also extends felicitations to his father, member Lulama Mvimbi, with this achievement.

[Motions as printed in the minutes.]

The SPEAKER: Are there any objections to these motions, hon members?

[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: No, no.

The SPEAKER: No objections, agreed to. I now wish to put to the House that the motions that have just been agreed to, will appear in the minutes and also in Hansard, with the names of the individual members, as if the members read them in the House here with us. Hon members, I will now afford an opportunity in terms of Rule 150(2) for the hon members to read the motions that were not agreed to or those that were not submitted in terms of the Programming Authority, as I have read earlier. We have 30 minutes to do this. I wish to request that the hon members who wish to speak, indicate that they wish to do so. Hon Kama?

Mr M KAMA: Am I moving a motion, Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Yes, if you wish so, sir. We have got 30 minutes, so you can enjoy.

Mr M KAMA (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House commends the Police for arrests made to round up senior DA members in the Western Cape, as suspects on various charges from money abuse to murder and congratulates the National Prosecuting Authority. The suspects are, amongst others, Cederberg's Joseph Farmer, Stellenbosch killers of DA Cameron Mcako, and Atlantis Nora Grose, all being DA members and leaders. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

Mr D AMERICA: Yes, there are objections.

Ms W F PHILANDER: I object.

An HON MEMBER: I object, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Are there any objections with the motion itself? [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hon Kama.

The SPEAKER: Are there any objections to the motion itself?

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

Ms W F PHILANDER: I object.

The SPEAKER: Is there an objection? Thank you. Hon member, the motion will be recorded in the Order Paper. Thank you. I now request the hon Brinkhuis, followed by hon Makamba-Botya.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House collectively prays for the recovery of my teacher, Mufti Taha Karaan, from the Strand community. He is very ill at the moment and not doing well. We pray for his health and a speedy recovery.

Thank you, Speaker.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Brinkhuis. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice?

An HON MEMBER: No.

The SPEAKER: Are there any objections to the motion itself? No objections, motion agreed to. Hon members, I recognise – okay, I do not see another – hon Makamba-Botya.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you, Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the City of Cape Town's proposal to turn King David Mowbray golf course into an opportunity for social housing. We further hope this is not part of cheap politicking by the DA-led City of Cape Town, with the hope of scoring a few votes using this public stance, only to revert back to their true colours of prioritising the interests of white people after the Local Government elections. The Government of the DA in the Western Cape has intentionally avoided any real means to address the spatial apartheid legacy in the province. All they do is come with proposals which never materialise. Our people need social and affordable housing opportunities on land closer to economic opportunities and they need it now. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Makamba-Botya. There is an objection in the House, from the Chamber. The objection will be recorded, and the motion will be recorded on the Order Paper. Thank you, hon Makamba-Botya. Hon

Nkondlo?

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the ANC for its tireless fight for gender equality in our society, which has resulted in the advancement of women, also in this House, including hon Baartman who has been appointed as DA Deputy Chief Whip; and further urges the Premier to urgently address the shortage of women in the Provincial Cabinet. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

Ms D M BAARTMAN: Objection!

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Nkondlo. Thank you, hon Baartman, the objection has been noted. Hon Nkondlo, the motion will be recorded in the Order Paper. I now see the hon Leader of the Opposition.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the numerous attempts launched by individuals to divide this province and establish an independent country in the Western Cape, separate from South Africa ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Leader of the Opposition. That is not the motion that you submitted.

An HON MEMBER: No, but he is doing it again, [Inaudible – speaking simultaneously.]

The SPEAKER: Is that a new one?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Okay, just hold on [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Again?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Is the other one ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: I have got it here.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Is the other one ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible – speaking simultaneously.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ... regarding the NA Portfolio Committee?

The SPEAKER: I do not want to read it for you, sir.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Is it about the NA Portfolio Committee?

The SPEAKER: Yes, yes.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Okay, I am sorry. We will come to get to the one wanting to have a separate country in the Western Cape. Would there be time to get to that? Okay, let me just move onto this one. Apologies for that, Speaker, and to members. I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the National Assembly Portfolio Committee for the work done on the Expropriation Bill and the public hearings which will be held over the next weeks; and urges the public to participate to make inputs and help finalise this piece of transformative legislation, which will fundamentally assist with land redistribution in our province and country. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

An HON MEMBER: Objection [Inaudible – speaking simultaneously.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon Leader of the Opposition. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice?

HON MEMBERS: Objection!

An HON MEMBER: Objections against the thievery.

The SPEAKER: Are there any objections to the motion itself?

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Objection. Noted, hon members. The objection has been noted. Hon Dugmore, the motion will be recorded in the Order Paper. Are there any further motions? None. Alright, thank you, hon members. Hon members, that concludes the motions and that also concludes the business for the day. I request the hon members to rise as we proceed with the procession. That is now the end of the session, the House is adjourned. Have a great evening. Thank you.

The House adjourned at 16:35.