**FF Plus: H Denner**

**Vote 10: Public Enterprises**

Honourable House Chair,

The vision of the department of Public Enterprises is to create an enabling environment in which State-owned companies can add real economic value to the economy of South Africa by focusing on operational excellence, commercial viability, and fiscal prudence.

And the targets on the report card against which these achievements are measured include the provision of a strategic direction and oversight over the six SOC’s under the department’s purview to ensure that they are:

1. Financially sustainable, adequately funded and operationally robust; and that
2. They provide reliable, high quality and cost-effective services and infrastructure to industry and our citizens.

Honourable chair, if the past five to ten years was an exam written by die DPE and this was the criteria, this department would fail on each and every question.

So would Eskom, Denel, the SAA, Transnet and Alexkor as well. SAFCOL would maybe get a five out of ten.

And why is this? Why is it that every single entity that this government touches is in need of a turnaround strategy? And why has not one single turnaround strategy been successful?

Is it incompetence? Is a lack of political will? Is it corruption? Is it outdated political ideologies or e) all of the above?

Is it operational excellence if we’ve had 3788 hours of loadshedding in the year 2022 and by not even the end of the fifth month of 2023 we have already had more than 3000 hours of loadshedding? Will this enable job creation and economic growth in line with the national development plan objectives?

Does it qualify as operational excellence and commercial viability of an entire state-owned airline has been run into the ground despite receiving bail-out after bail-out after bail-out and now the department, the minister and the entity is bailing out through a questionable so-called merger under a cloud of too many questions, such as:

1. How much is SAA worth? Is it R14 billion, R3 billion or R51?
2. What process was followed in identifying Takatso Consortium?
3. What criteria was used?
4. How much is the 51% stake being sold for?
5. What is the oversight committee’s input on this?
6. What is the minister’s role in this?
7. Why are there so many unanswered questions?

Chairperson, in his 2023 State of the Nation address, the president set the following priorities for government for this year:

1. Load-shedding; – (that has subsequently worsened to stage 6 and possibly beyond?)
2. Unemployment; - (that is more that 40% with youth unemployment rapidly nearing 70%, which will worsen with governments apartheid-recipe race based legislation)
3. Poverty and the rising cost of living; (that worsens every day due to factors such as loadshedding and rising unemployment) and
4. Crime and corruption – (that is literally killing citizens of this country).

So another question that arises is why is it that when something is made a priority by this government it automatically worsens the situation?

I ask again, is it incompetence? Is a lack of political will? Is it corruption? Is it outdated political ideologies or e) all of the above?

It’s all of the above chair.

Maar moenie glo nie, hierdie regering sal nie die verantwoordelikheid vir sy eie wandade aanvaar nie. Selfs die minister van hierdie departement, van wie vele Suid-Afrikaners meer verwag het, maak homself skuldig daaraan. As dit nie Jan van Riebeeck of apartheid of die wit man of white monopoly capital se skuld is nie, dan is dit André de Ruyter se skuld, maar dit is nooit die skuld van die plunderende ANC-kaders nie. Die skurke in dasse en blink hoëhakskoene wat sonder gewete or voorbehoud die koffers van elke staatsbeheerde entiteit, elke departement en elke munisipaliteit in hierdie land geplunder het tot waar Suid-Afrikaners honger en werkloos in donker moet sit.

Voorsitter, die ANC het 30 jaar gehad om hierdie toets deur te kom. Hulle het gedruip. En ons klaar met hulle. Ek dank u.