**DEBATE ON VOTE 13: PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**23 MAY 2023**

**HON. SPEAKER**

**HON. CHAIRPERSON**

**THE FREEDOM FRONT PLUS WELCOMES THE MINISTER’S ANNOUNCEMENT THIS PAST WEEKEND THAT HE WILL LAUNCH AN INVESTIGATION REGARDING SISPICIOUS EXPENSES OCCURRED AT OFFICIAL RESIDENCES FOR THE USE BY MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS. THESE EXPENSES ARE NOT A NEW OCCURRENCE AND WE CAN NO LONGER ALLOW IT TO CONTINUE. R1.4 MILLION FOR THE RENOVATION OF A KITCHEN, R54000-00 FOR CURTAINS, R50 MILLION FOR FUEL FOR GENERATORS AND EVEN WORSE; THE REPLACEMENT OF LIGHT BULBS FOR AN AMOUNT OF R19 000-00.**

**WHILE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE SUFFERING WITHOUT ELECTRICITY, THE LIGHTS ARE BURNING AT THESE RESIDENCES IN PRETORIA AND CAPE TOWN. WHILE OUR HOSPITALS IS SUFFERING DUE TO THE FACT THAT INFRASTRUCTURE IS COLLAPSING, THESE HUGE AMOUNTS ARE SPEND ON OFFICIAL RESIDENCES. WHILE THE MAINTENANCE ON OUR GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS ARE NOT GIVEN THE NECESSARY ATTENTION AND WHERE THIS DEPARTMENT SUFFER A HUGE LOSS OF REVENUE DUE TO THIS PROBLEM, THESE HUGE AMOUNTS ARE SPEND ON OFFICIAL RESIDENCES. WHILE SOUTH-AFRICAN INFRASTRUCTURE IS BUSY COLLAPSING ON A HUGE SCALE, THESE AMOUNTS, THAT MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL, ARE BEING SPEND ON OFFICIAL RESIDENCES. WHILE OUR CHILDREN MUST ATTEND SCHOOL IN PITCH DARK CLASSROOMS THESE SENCELESS AMOUNTS ARE BEEN SPEND. WHILE OUR STUDENTS MUST ATTEND DARK UNIVERSITIES THESE AMOUNTS ARE BEING SPEND AND WASTED.**

**WHILE THE SOUTH-AFRICAN INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING’S INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT CARD FOR 2022 FOUND THAT SOUTH-AFRICA’S INFRASTRUCTURE IS IN A CRISIS AND DESCRIBED AS “AT RISK OF FAILING” OR “UNFIT FOR PURPOSE” THESE AMOUNTS ARE BEING SPEND ON OFFICIAL RESIDENCES.**

**WHILE THE ELDERLY SUFFERS IN OLD AGE HOMES DUE TO THE FACT THAT THEY CANNOT UTILISE ELECTRICITY FOR THEIR OXYGEN MACHINES, THESE SENCELESS AMOUNTS ARE BEING SPEND ON SENCELESS ITEMS. WHILE SOUTH-AFRICANS HAS DRY TAPS, THESE AMOUNTS ARE BEING SPEND ON OFFICIAL RESIDENCES.**

**THIS GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO SORT OUT ITS PRIORITIES AND WE SIMPLY CANNOT CONTINUE ON THIS PATH BECAUSE SOUTH-AFRICA IS SUFFERING AND BLEEDING TO DEATH.**

**IN THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN FOR 2023/24 IT IS INDICATED THAT IT MUST BE INSURED THAT INFRASTRUCTURE IS USED AS A CATALYST TO DRIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR. HOWEVER, THE FREEDOM FRONT PLUS IS OF THE OPINION THAT THIS WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED WITH THE CURRENT RACIST LAWS LIKE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND BROAD BASED BLACK ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN PLACE. GET RID OF THESE RACIST LAWS AND YOU WILL SEE HOW INVESTMENTS WILL FLOW TO THIS COUNTRY. GET RID OF THE RED TAPE AND ALLOW THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO EXPAND AND THEN YOU WILL SEE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION ON A HUGE SCALE. THEN YOU WILL SEE INDUSTRIES RISE ON A HUGE SCALE. GET RID OF EXPROPRIATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION THEN YOU WILL SEE SOUTH-AFRICA RISE AS THE BEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD TO LIVE IN.**

**FRAUD AND CORRUPTION HAS ALREADY TAKEN ITS TOLL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE. THE BEITBRIDGE BORDER SCANDEL, THE KOSI BAY BORDER SCANDEL, THE SCANDEL RELATING TO COVID-19 PROCUREMENTS OCCURRED BY THIS DEPARTMENT AND THE CHAOS RELATING TO QUARANTINE FACILITIES DURING COVID-19 ARE SOME EXAMPLES. UNTILL TODAY WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANYONE JAILED FOR THESE CORRUPT ACTIVITIES.**

**SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE SOUTH AFRICA IN NOVEMBER 2019, THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE STEERED BY THE MINISTER OF ELECTRICITY, DR. RAMOKGOPA, WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT THIS NEW ENTITY HAS MADE TOWARDS THE UPGRADING, REFURBISHMENT OR BUILDING OF NEW INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOUTH-AFRICA IS IN DIRE NEED OF NEW HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, NEW SCHOOLS, NEW COURTBUILDINGS, NEW POLICE STATIONS, NEW RAILWAYS, NEW BORDER FENCING, NEW ROADS, NEW ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSES FOR THE POOR, WATER AND SANITATION, NEW DAMS AND BRIDGES AND THE LIST GOES ON. OUR HARBOURS ARE CERTAINLY NOT UP TO STANDARD AND NEEDS URGENT ATTENTION. IN THE WORDS OF THIS DEPARTMENT OWN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN FOR 2023/24 THE CHALLENGE IS THE AVAILABILITY OF ROBUST, CREDIBLE AND BANKABLE PROJECT PIPELINES.**

**THE ALLOCATION OF R17.1 BILLION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS FOR 24 DEPARTMENTS IS WELCOMED AS WE SIMPLY CAN NOT AFFORD THAT OUR GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS TO FALL INTO DECAY ON A DAILY BASIS. THE SOUTH AFRICAN TAXPAYER CAN NOT AFFORD THIS AND THIS GOVERNMENT MUST SEE TO IT THAT THIS PROBLEM IS RESOLVED ON AN URGENT BASIS. THE MAINTENANCE OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND THE LACK OF AN EFFECTIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IS AN AREA OF GREAT CONCERN. THE LACK OF ASSET MANAGEMENT RESULTS IN THE NO SAFE GUARDING OF ASSETS, ASSETS BEING ABANDONED AND LOOTERS STRIPPING THESE ASSETS. THIS IS NOT JUST A LOSS IN REVENUE FOR THIS DEPARTMENT BUT ALSO FOR THE SOUTH-AFRICAN TAXPAYER. THE OUSTANDING RENT OWNED BY CLIENT DEPARTMENTS PLACES A FURTHER BURDEN OF THIS DEPARTMENT AND THE TAXPAYER WHO MUST BEAR THE COST AT THE END OF THE DAY.**

**THE FACT THAT SEVEN MATERIAL IRREGULARITIES WAS REPORTED BY THE AUDITOR GENERAL RELATING TO STATE FUNERALS, STATE EVENTS, THE BEITBRIDGE BORDER FENCE, THE MAMELODI COURT PROJECT, THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE LEEUWKOP PROSIN’S BOILERS AND LEASE OVERPAYMENTS, IS A MATTER OF HUGE CONCERN. WHAT IS MORE CONCERNING IS THE FACT THAT ONLY THE MATTER REGARDING STATE FUNERALS IS RESOLVED AND THE OTHERS JUST SHOW THAT APPROPRIATE ACTION IS BEING TAKEN. BUT LIKE I STATED EARLIER, WE HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYBODY RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE IRREGULARITIES BEEN ARRESTED, TRAILED OR SENTENCED.**

**AGBARE MINISTER U IS ‘N NUWE MINISTER IN HIERDIE PORTEFEULJE. U IS DIE NUWE POLITIEKE HOOF VAN HIERDIE DEPARTEMENT. DIE VF PLUS VERWELKOM U MAAR ONS SAL GRAAG WIL SIEN DAT AL HIERDIE PROBLEME WAT VANDAG HIER AAN U GENOEM IS, DAADWERKLIKE AANDAG KRY EN DAT U DAADWERKLIKE POGINGS SAL AANWEND OM SUID-AFRIKA SE INFRASTRUKTUUR-KRISIS OP TE LOS.**

**HORENDE DOOF EN SIENDE BLIND IS DIE BESTE WYSE OM DIE ANC-REGERING SE HOUDING TEENOOR DIE VERVAL VAN INFRASTRUKTUUR IN SUID-AFRIKA TE BESKRYF.**

**U MINISTER KAN DIT VERANDER EN EK HOOP VAN HARTE DAT DIT WEL SAL GEBEUR.**

**SUID-AFRIKA KAN HIERDIE ANC REGERING BLOOT NIE VERDER BEKOSTIG NIE.**

**DIE TYD HET AANGEBREEK OM HIERDIE REGERING BY DIE STEMBUS TE VERVANG MET ‘N VERANTWOORDBARE EN VERANTWOORDELIKE REGERING WAT DIE BELANGE VAN SUID-AFRIKA EN SY LANDSBURGERS OP DIE HART DRA.**

**DANKIE.**

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**HON. P.A. VAN STADEN MP**

**FREEDOM FRONT PLUS**

**23 MAY 2023**