**TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION BUDGET VOTE**

1. The EFF rejects the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition budget vote.
2. Minister Ebrahim Patel stood in front of Parliament and the country for the last 10 years to present a budget vote of the department of economic development and now Trade, Industry and Competition. Every year, he will tell us about non-existence industrial capacity.
3. He imagines some industrial capacity and thinks it exists. The Minister came to the committee and said South Africa has the capacity to manufacture ventilators and with a potential surplus for export to the rest of the continent.
4. This is not true. There is no such capacity in South Africa. The reality is that South Africa does not have either industrial policy or manufacturing capacity.
5. We are a country that does not produce what we consume on a daily basis and continue to rely on imports of everything including the most basic things.
6. We are still exporting raw mineral resources and agriculture produce only to buy finished goods made out of our own mineral resources and agricultural produce.
7. The Minister of Health Dr Zweli Mkhize told the Portfolio Committee on Health that 90% of PPE were imported from other countries. We are importing ventilations and relying on donations. We are importing PPEs and begging from donations. We are importing masks, gloves, aprons and coveralls
8. You were too arrogant to listen when we told you time and again that there is no believable or practical plans that will lead to industrialisation, job creation and redistribution of wealth to the majority of our people.
9. Our economy is concentrated in the hands of few people even in the time of a pandemic, they can as they please without serious consequence.
10. Dischem is fined R1.2 million for hiking prices for masks. There are companies that have hiked prices by more than 500%. The Competition Commission received more than 1 000 complaints about price hiking, including food prices. These are the consequences of the economy controlled by a few on the basis of exploitation of the majority.
11. The only practical step to deal with this level of greed is to arrest directors of companies and send them to jail. There is no use to negotiate with greedy people who are not even shammed to hike prices during COVID-19.
12. There is still no believable and practical plan to deal with SABC and NCRS.
13. There is still no believable and practical plan to reimagine industrial zones into zones that produce food and create jobs.
14. There is still no believable plan to invest coordinate state buying power, as a result, the government is failing to use its buying power to influence industrialisation.
15. There is still no clear plan on how to transfer ownership of our wealth as a country to companies owned and controlled by women and youth.
16. While the minister continues to imagine non-existent industrial capacity, our people remain unemployed.
17. Companies continue to retrench people, including companies who pledged finance at the investment and jobs summit company convinced by Mr Ramaphosa.
18. The EFF is the only political party that has put on the tabled a practical and believable industrial strategy. Only a state-led industrial land will work in South Africa
19. The EFF rejects the Depart of Trade, Industry and Competition adjusted budget.