

DM: PRESIDENT BUDGET VOTE 1

Speaker of the National Assembly

Deputy Speaker

The President – President Mr Cyril Ramaphosa

Deputy President – Mr DD Mabuza

Minister and Deputy Ministers

Members of Parliament

Distinguished guests

Honorable speaker I wish to appreciate this opportunity to participate in the budget vote 1 debate, today's budget vote happens on the day that many years ago introduced what was referred to as ordinance 50, 17 July 1858, which was alleged to be an improvement of conditions of the then Hottentots and other free persons of colour who resided in the Cape of Good Hope and for consolidation and amending the laws affecting those persons. Point number 4 of that ordinance indicates 'whereas it was expedient to protect ignorant and unwary Hottentots and other free Persons of colour as aforesaid from the effects of improvident Contracts for Service: Be it therefore enacted, [that it shall not be legal for any person to hire by written agreement any Hottentot or free person of colour for a longer period than one calendar month at a time, except as hereinafter provided.] – point 5 would go on and say longer periods of up to a year needed an intervention of clerk or justice. In 1950, this day saw introduction of suppression to communism act, which was a legislation that so the arrest of many freedom fighters. I thought this grazing through history will be important, Honourable member whilst one discuss budget vote 1,

Central to the debate of guiding national economic development through mobilising domestic and foreign capital and other social partners to achieve this goal, with the objective of decent employment through inclusive growth, Seats the land question, Honorable Speaker and honorable members. This, thus necessitating that the discussion speaking to expropriation of land without compensation and the important exercise of reviewing section 25 of the constitution to align with expropriation of land without compensation be fast-tracked and resolved soonest.

The last 25 years has been an indication enough that buying and selling stolen goods does not work.

Madam speaker

1. Mineral Resources –

- a. The country is ready to grow this industry. Both from the point of explorations, mining and also from beneficiation point of view. SA is a member of the international Seabad Authority that is responsible for the

offshore manganese discoveries on the west coast, SA has 1% on Manganese, with a plan to increase that to 4%

- b. The coal under the South African soil is still in abundance, with DMRE's to energy security being mixed energy, and encouraging coal mining and employing clean coal technology. There is more opportunities in mining this mineral resource. PetroSA can also look into feed diversification, coal gasification being another option to secure feed for PetroSA.
- c. There is further opportunities in gas explorations and mining, as this is another form of clean energy. Also as a feed to PetroSA
- d. Mining of titanium oxide and many other non ferrous minerals has the greatest of potentials and would play a great role in improving economic standing of mining industry.
- e. The slowing down in gold mining does not necessarily mean, there is no more gold under our soils. Some of the old gold mines are still have value, as a result small scale mining is encouraged. The by product in a form of illegal mining shall be attended to by SAPS and DMRE. Lets also tone down the politics in
- f. Implementation of the mining charter, shall assist in ensuring that more locals are part of the mining industry. From mine ownership to procurement of goods and services by mine owners locally.

2. Energy has a lot of potential

- a. With fuel and electricity prices being so central in attracting investors into various industry. The priority will be given to reviewing, and exploring of possible solutions to reduce these prices, as such positioning SA amongst countries with lowest operating costs as far as utilities are concerned and encourage investors to beneficiate mineral resources mined here locally.
- b. The approach of mixed energy sources to provide energy security. Also bring a lot more opportunities particularly with new energy sources, like gas, wind, biomass, etc
- c. With some of the power stations reaching end of line, a need to looking into extension of life or total rebuild is important to maintain electricity base line, whilst encouraging other sources to come on the table.
- d. Investment into increasing capacity of producing fuel locally, is important as we currently have to import a high amount of hydrocarbons to respond to fuel demands of the country, the government should move with building a refinery in Richards bay and pipeline to connect to NMPP(this would benefit 21000 jobs in construction, 5000 jobs). Equally a LNG plant should be considered with in Coega, together with modification of the port in PE, and pipeline to PetroSA to allow for imports and exports of gas.

3. Agriculture

- a. The age of farmers honorable Speakers is estimated between 58-64 years, the agricultural economic participation has reduced.
- b. The support of small farmers as announced by the department of agriculture, land and rural development, is applauded by the ANC.
- c. There is however a need to bring the number of agriculture graduates on board as support to those small farmers, as a way of enhancing agriculture through their skills and creating jobs for them

4. Through the **Department of Public Works And Infrastructure**, our government will continue to maintain our infrastructure and be a driver to create sustainable jobs to fight the prevalent unemployment.

- a. An establishment of infrastructure investment fund by the department is welcomed by the ANC. This indicates intention to develop our country its length and breadth. And it also be a vehicle to ensure involvement of local businesses particularly businesses owned by youth women and people with disabilities.
- b. 2.5 billion – EPWP – target to benefit over 8000 new job opportunities, and hopefully it will maintain the 66 percent women, 44 percent youth beneficiaries.
- c. The national youth service, youth environmental services programme, should be done in partnership with the NYDA.

5. The government is encouraging a public private sector partnership in the agriculture sector to source locally produced goods and products. The focus should be fast foods, supermarkets and textile retail industries. This will create more employment opportunities for our people and economic growth for the local economies.

6. Trade and Industry

- a. Our active participation on the global forums presents a great opportunities for the country and development of the content as the whole. South Africa's membership of BRICS has been one of the key strategic partnerships of the democratic South Africa and is a key the platform for promoting South-South trade and investment. With a combined GDP of \$16.6 trillion in 2016, BRICS countries jointly contribute 22% of the world's GDP and constitute 17% of world trade. South Africa's participation in the BRICS may provide opportunities to build its domestic manufacturing base, enhance value-added exports, promote technology sharing, support small business development and expand trade and investment opportunities. We believe that this is more likely to be achieved through participation in the value chains of these countries
- b. Local economic – the approach to trigger local participation needs a bit, by looking innovatively into it. For an examples malls – sourcing their goods where their geographically located. Assigning a percent of 40

percent goods, starting with certain goods. i.e breads- encourage communities to establish bakeries as a result creating jobs, marine products – for coastal areas this would trigger interest in marine economy, vegetables – trigger interest into farming, chicken – looking into fast foods industry and retailing supermakerts, clothing – revitalizing textile industry locally

- c. The consideration of government to introduce sanitary dignity project – that this be ring fenced for women, particularly young women to benefit from the natural phenomenon that they themselves experience. Looking manufacturing, quality assurance, packaging and blending, recycling – their blood should be their business.
- d. The township economy takes a turn of running outside the planning of government, the government should look into enhancing what is there, rather than reconstruction. For an example the case of Johannesburg, Philippi, kwaLanga and grobersdal ... in these areas there is big business of selling braaied meet and vegetables, the market is there, the business is flowing and creating employment. We should rather look into assisting these businesses to formalize, adhere to standards of safety and health, but also looking into sheltering their business. For an example kwaMaimai, kwaLanga, Phillipi – they sell meet along the road, instead of grandstanding, the Johannesburg Metro and Cape Town Metro – should work with SMME department and labour and jobs to support through providing shelter, common cold rooms
- e. The DTI should ensure participation of youth, women and people with disabilities in international business through the countries' trade agreements with different country, as a source of markets

7. Environment, Forestry and fisheries –

- a. Waste management – support the existing waste pikers, but also provide support for new entrants. Particularly youth and women, also assist them to look into processing some of the waste to increase its value. With an interest to align to COP 17.
- b. Introduce quarter for milling facilities to accept black suppliers of wood. Even in the space of 4IR we still going to need furniture
- c. Fisheries is a growing industry with high potential, lets open markets and encourage and support youth and women, to learn to harvest fish, build vessels necessary for transportation of goods and energy products

8. Tourism –

- a. There has been establishment of Tourism Incubation Programme for SMMEs, as well as SanParks. The communities and SMMEs in surrounding areas will benefit be incubated to enable them to set up sustainable businesses while implementing a maintenance programme in the five national parks as part job summit commitment from the sector

- b. EPWP working for tourism programme aims to increase its full time opportunities from 3000 to 4331
 - c. scale up on the implementation on our flagship Women in Tourism (WiT) Programme which support the development and empowerment of women in the tourism sector.
 - d. 21 million visitors remain a target, amongst them should be investors.
- 9. Our government have made concerted effort on **women, youth and people with disability** as the priority sectors for empowerment.
 - a. Streamlining of youth development as outlined ministry responsible for Women, Youth and people with disabilities.
 - b. The ANC cautions government against the June month, and August Month Summits, that have been held for so many years and resolutions that remain the same, has ran out of time. The best example of work we want, are implementation meetings, launching of projects targeting youth, women and people with disabilities
 - c. The Women, Youth and people with disabilities remain unfunded mandates even though they remain a priority to respond to, we invite private sector to consider coming on board through CSI, a 50% contribution from their CSI to national treasury to be distributed amongst these sectors. The NT can be lobbied to assign incentives as normal to that 50%.
 - d. This could result in more job opportunities, as there could be some funds to wards Youth SMMEs, which the NYDA has demonstrated strength, jobs programme, skills programme, national youth service, nation building and strengthening of institutions responsible for youth development, with excellence governance of its finances shown through 5 consecutive clean audits and meeting all their performance commitments.
- 10. **Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture**, through this department we must continue to promote, develop sports, recreation, arts, and Culture to protect the rich heritage of our country.
 - a. As young people in the country we see a potential for job creation and opportunities in this country, through an increase in local content in state owned broadcaster and the private owned broadcasters. This would trigger creation of content, which largely happens in an informal way current. We call for the SRAC department to invest in recording, video and music production centres in townships, work with department of Communications to open platforms and opportunities for young people to own platforms, but also to consume their products.
 - b. Participate in rural sporting and performing arts activities and support such. As these encourage keeping youth focused and off drugs and other fruitless activities. As a by product, this can produce a lot of young energetic sports men and women to assist our national teams. As well as continuous grooming of artists.

- c. The department should as well consider a discussion with teachers union, department of basic education, sports associations with an intention to rework sports and recreation in the curriculum.
- d. Also look into inclusion of sporting activities as a requirement for all NSFAS funded students... the documentary on Thomas Sankara accounts that his government introduced sporting activities/physical education as a compulsory activity which resulted in better results in education but also addressed state of health of people of Burkina Faso, Honorable speaker this is necessary for the Upright people of our beloved country.

11. Public entities

- a. The state enterprises that are meant to make profit, should do. But there should be an intention to offer them market share in the market. For an example SAA, could be assisted with ensuring that all government departments, parliament etc use their services taking into account that we travel so much within the country, by introducing government rates and other handles. Also look into policies and laws governing the operations domestic flights, address issues of international airlines also doing domestic flights. In a number of countries, domestic flights are ring fenced for local airlines, in others specifically government airlines.
- b. NECSA – NTP – produces cancer treatment and diagnosis isotopes, the isotope is sold to other countries like Us, Australia etc. but only one hospital buys and offer this treatment, look into buying 50% of their cancer treatment from this government establishment
- c. This would be the case with DENEL, PetroSA, SFF, AE(state mining company). This can be one of alternatives to ease pressure on the fiscus.

The ANC supports the budget vote 1: