

No 24 – 2021] THIRD SESSION, SIXTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 2021

1. The House met at 14:07.
2. Ms R M M Lesoma, as Chairperson, took the Chair and requested members to observe a moment of silence for prayer or meditation.
3. [14:08] The Chief Whip of the Majority Party moved: That the House extends the deadline by which the *Ad Hoc Committee to initiate and introduce legislation amending section 25 of the Constitution* has to complete its task to 10 September 2021.

Motion agreed to.

4. [14:09] Members' statements.
5. FIRST ORDER [14:48]

Consideration of Report of Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technology on **Oversight visit to National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)** (Announcements, Tablings and Committee Reports, 4 June 2021, p 4).

Ms N T Mkhathshwa, as a member of the Committee, introduced the Report.

There was no debate.

The Chief Whip of the Majority Party moved: That the Report be adopted.

Declarations of vote made on behalf of the Democratic Alliance, Economic Freedom Fighters, Inkatha Freedom Party, Freedom Front Plus,

African Christian Democratic Party, Al' Jama-ah, Congress of the People and African National Congress.

[15:19] Ms E R J Spies having disregarded the authority of the Chair was ordered by House Chairperson Mr C T Frolick to withdraw from the virtual platform for the remainder of the day's sitting.

The member was thereupon withdrawn from the sitting.

Motion agreed to.

Report accordingly adopted.

6. SECOND ORDER [15:31]

Consideration of Report of Joint Standing Committee on the Financial Management of Parliament on **Parliament of Republic of South Africa's 2019/20 Annual Report** (Announcements, Tablings and Committee Reports, 28 May 2021, p 24).

Ms B P Mabe, as Co-Chairperson of the Committee, introduced the Report.

There was no debate.

The Chief Whip of the Majority Party moved: That the Report be adopted.

Declarations of vote made on behalf of the Democratic Alliance, Economic Freedom Fighters, Inkatha Freedom Party, Freedom Front Plus, African Christian Democratic Party, United Democratic Movement, Al' Jama-ah and African National Congress.

Motion agreed to (Economic Freedom Fighters dissenting).

Report accordingly adopted.

7. THIRD ORDER [16:01]

Consideration of Report of Portfolio Committee on Small Business Development on **Covid-19 Debt Relief Fund Beneficiaries virtual oversight** (Announcements, Tablings and Committee Reports, 18 May 2021, p 67).

Ms V S Siwela, as Chairperson of the Committee, introduced the Report.

There was no debate.

The Chief Whip of the Majority Party moved: That the Report be adopted.

Declarations of vote made on behalf of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Democratic Alliance, Economic Freedom Fighters, Freedom Front Plus,

African Christian Democratic Party, Al' Jama-ah and African National Congress.

Motion agreed to (Economic Freedom Fighters and Freedom Front Plus dissenting).

Report accordingly adopted.

8. FOURTH ORDER [16:28]

Consideration of Report of Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation on **1st and 2nd quarters 2020/21 expenditure performance of Department of International Relations and Cooperation and African Renaissance and International Cooperation Fund** (Announcements, Tablings and Committee Reports, 14 May 2021, p 144).

Mr D L Moela, as a member of the Committee, introduced the Report.

There was no debate.

The Chief Whip of the Majority Party moved: That the Report be adopted.

Declarations of vote made on behalf of the Democratic Alliance, Economic Freedom Fighters, Inkatha Freedom Party, African Christian Democratic Party, Congress of the People, Al' Jama-ah and African National Congress.

Motion agreed to (Democratic Alliance and Economic Freedom Fighters dissenting).

Report accordingly adopted.

9. [17:03] Mr W T Letsie moved without notice: That the House –

- (1) notes with pride the talent of a young female astronomer, Tebogo Bestina Mashile, who is passionate about astrophysics and mathematics and is making strides in a field long dominated by men;
- (2) further notes that at 33 years old, she is the proud holder of a BSc (Physics, Chemistry and Applied Mathematics) and BSc Honours in Applied Mathematics, a BSc Honours in Astrophysics and Space Science, and has recently completed a MSc in Astrophysics;
- (3) acknowledges that she is not stopping at four degrees, but is currently registering for her PhD in Astrophysics with the University of the Witwatersrand;

- (4) recalls that when studying for her Honours in Astrophysics and Space Science, not only was she the only black student, but also the only woman in a group of 17 students;
- (5) believes that her achievements and commitment will encourage and empower the next generation; and
- (6) congratulates her on her achievements at such a young age.

Agreed to.

10. Ms E R Wilson moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes with sadness the passing of Ms Babita Deokaran, at the age of 53 years old, after she was brutally gunned down outside her home on 24 August 2021;
- (2) further notes that Ms Deokaran was the Chief Director: Financial Accounting at the Gauteng Department of Health, and had been appointed to the position of Acting Chief Financial Officer in August 2020, where she served the people of Gauteng with dedication and high ethical standards while uncovering corruption and stopping payments of the irregular and unlawful procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE) that rocked Gauteng;
- (3) acknowledges that Ms Deokaran was passionate about bringing perpetrators of corruption and looting to book and that she brought crucial evidence to the fore in the disciplinary processes conducted by the Office of the Premier, and was a key witness in the Special Investigating Unit's investigation into among others fraudulent Covid-19 PPE contracts;
- (4) recognises that Ms Deokaran's evidence led to numerous successful dismissals of corrupt officials and the institution of civil claims to recover public funds;
- (5) recalls that Ms Deokaran is not the first courageous public servant to have lost her life allegedly for exposing the truth, and hopes that it will not deter other honest public servants from holding their colleagues to account; and
- (6) conveys its heartfelt condolences to Ms Deokaran's family, colleagues and friends.

Agreed to.

11. Ms H O Mkhalihi moved without notice: That the House –

- (1) notes the recently released unemployment figures by Statistics South Africa, which show that the official level of unemployment has soared to over 34% in South Africa;
- (2) further notes that the expanded definition of unemployment, which includes people who have given up looking for work sits at almost 44%, which means that almost half the people of working age in South Africa are unemployed;
- (3) acknowledges that youth unemployment is the worst, and that the Government has dismally failed to create job opportunities for young people, and also failed to support aspiring youth entrepreneurs;
- (4) further acknowledges that South Africa has one of the highest rates of unemployment in the world, and that the problem of unemployment is a ticking time bomb that threatens to rip the country apart, as the excluded will eventually rise up against those who have power and resources;
- (5) recognises that the problem of unemployment will not be resolved through austerity measures, and that there is a need for a more interventionist state to redirect development towards sectors that are labour absorptive; and
- (6) further recognises that Parliament must play a more active role in rethinking the country's development path, and to this end, commits to intensively engage with the economic cluster ministries to ascertain, interrogate and monitor their job creation plans.

Agreed to.

12. Mr L N Mangcu moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes with shock the passing of 30 passengers in a fatal bus accident on the N2 between East London and Butterworth on Monday, 16 August 2021;
- (2) further notes that among the deceased was the driver of the bus, who allegedly lost control of the vehicle before crashing into the winding road's guardrails and overturning;
- (3) understands that the bus was travelling from Cape Town to Mthatha, with passengers destined for Ngcobo, Butterworth and Dutywa;
- (4) calls for the authorities to expedite the investigations into the cause of this horrific accident; and
- (5) conveys its condolences to the families who lost their loved ones and wishes the injured passengers a speedy recovery.

Agreed to.

13. Mr N Singh moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes that 27 August 2021 marks the birthday of Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi MP, South Africa's elder statesman, who continues to play an invaluable role in service to Parliament, to our country and to the Zulu Nation;
- (2) acknowledges that over seven decades in public service, Prince Buthelezi has made countless personal sacrifices in order to secure freedom and build our democracy, advocating and embodying servant leadership;
- (3) further acknowledges that during the recent riots and insurrection that brought South Africa to its knees, Prince Buthelezi was one of the few leaders who spoke out swiftly, called for calm and even participated in community safety initiatives;
- (4) thanks Prince Buthelezi for always being a voice of reason, for his decades of service to our nation, for his continued service to Parliament, and his continued unwavering opposition to corruption, racism and unethical leadership; and
- (5) wishes Prince Buthelezi a happy birthday, continued good health and strength for the work that still lies before him.

Agreed to.

14. Dr W J Boshoff moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes that the South African under-20 team participated and took honours at the World Athletics under-20 event in Nairobi, Kenya;
- (2) further notes that this biannual event includes athletes from 114 national athletics federations, all over the world;
- (3) understands that South Africa was sixth in the medals table and fourth overall;
- (4) recognises that South Africa won three gold, two silver and four bronze medals, and the medal winners are:
 - a) Miné de Klerk – Gold in shotput and Silver in discus;
 - b) Mire Reinstorf – Gold and a world record in pole vault;
 - c) Team 4 X 100m relay (Mihlali Xhotyeni, Sinesipho Dambile, Lethlagonolo Moleyane and Benjamin Richardson) – Gold and a world record;

- d) Benjamin Richardson – Silver in 200m;
 - e) Dané Roets – Bronze in Shotput;
 - f) Matthys Nortjé – Bronze in 400m;
 - g) Sinesipho Dambile – Bronze in 200m; and
 - h) Kyle Rademeyer – Pole vault;
- (5) further recognises that the rest of the teams also displayed great sportsmanship and represented their countries with honour; and
- (6) congratulates the athletes, their families who often work equally as hard, as well as Athletics South Africa.

Agreed to.

15. Ms J Tshabalala moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes with deep sadness the passing of the struggle veteran and former African National Congress Member of Parliament, Mr Dan Sechaba Montsitsi, from COVID-19 complications on Friday, 13 August 2021;
- (2) remembers that Montsitsi was one of the leaders in the Soweto Students Representative Council (SSRC) that was instrumental in coordinating protest actions in Soweto against the introduction of Afrikaans language as a medium of instruction in schools;
- (3) further remembers him as one of the presidents of the South African Student Movement (SASM) in 1974, and as a National Youth Organisation (NYO) Executive Committee member;
- (4) recalls that his activism led to him being arrested in June 1977 and he was sentenced to three years on Robben Island;
- (5) acknowledges that after being released from prison, he became part of the national programme which led to the formation and launch of the United Democratic Front (UDF) on 20 August 1983 in Cape Town;
- (6) further acknowledges that he also continued with ANC and UmKhonto WeSizwe (MK) underground structures as a Commander within the MK Peter Nchabeleng Unit;
- (7) further recalls that after 1994, he became a Member of the democratic Parliament of South Africa and served as a Member of

the Joint Standing Committee on Defence as well as other select committees; and

- (8) conveys its condolences to his family and friends.

Agreed to.

16. Mr W M Thring moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) condemns the looting and destruction of property, as well as the loss of innocent lives, that took place in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng, from 9 July 2021 to 16 July 2021;
- (2) commends citizens from all race groups who stood as the last line of defence, protecting family, property and businesses; and
- (3) conveys its condolences to the families who lost their loved ones during this dark period of our history.

Agreed to.

17. Mr N L S Kwankwa moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes with sadness and shock the brutal, inhumane murder of Nosicelo Mtebeni, a 23-year-old final year law student from the University of Fort Hare, whose dismembered body parts were found stuffed into a suitcase and her other limbs were found in a black plastic bag on Thursday, 19 August 2021, in Quigney, East London;
- (2) further notes that Nosicelo's life was cut short by a 25-year-old man who is believed or alleged to have been her boyfriend;
- (3) remembers that her gruesome death is one of many gender-based murders and shameful acts committed against women and children across South Africa;
- (4) condemns in the strongest possible terms the murder of Nosicelo Mtebeni and all other acts of gender-based violence;
- (5) calls on the criminal justice system to ensure a speedy prosecution and make sure that all perpetrators of gender-based violence crimes face the full might of the law;
- (6) further calls on this House to double its efforts to ensure that it strengthens all laws that deal with gender-based violence and femicide crimes; and
- (7) extends its deep sympathies and condolences to the family, friends and the University of Fort Hare community.

Agreed to.

18. Mr C H H Hunsinger moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes with sadness the passing of Mr Siddeeq Railoun due to Covid-19-related complications on 23 August 2021;
- (2) further notes that Mr Railoun was recently appointed to the position of Executive Director of the struggling District Six Museum, and that he had an enormous impact on the future of the museum during his short tenure;
- (3) acknowledges that Mr Railoun, born and bred in Woodstock, and his family were evicted from District Six as a result of the Group Areas Act, which fuelled his desire to engage with the staff to ensure that the museum once again plays an integral part in telling the history of District Six's diversity of cultures, languages, religions, economics and the destruction borne of the Apartheid government's group areas separation policies;
- (4) recalls that at the time of his appointment, Mr Railoun said that nothing in life came without challenges and beautiful moments; and
- (5) conveys its heartfelt condolences to Mr Railoun's family, colleagues at the District Six Museum and friends.

Agreed to.

19. Ms R C Adams moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) congratulates Tatjana Schoenmaker and Bianca Buitendag for winning medals at the Olympic games in Tokyo which took place from Friday, 23 July 2021, after being postponed from last summer due to the coronavirus pandemic;
- (2) notes that Tatjana Schoenmaker won double medals (gold and silver) and set a world record in the pool, whereas Bianca Buitendag won a silver medal in surfing;
- (3) acknowledges that the duo won their silver medals on the same day, the first Tuesday of the Tokyo showpiece, before Schoenmaker added her 200m breaststroke gold a few days later;
- (4) thanks all the athletes who represented the country at the Olympic games; and
- (5) further congratulates the two athletes for their outstanding achievements and for flying the South African flag high.

Agreed to.

20. Mr L E Macdonald moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes with shock the devastating taxi crash outside one of the entrances of Parliament on Friday, 20 August 2021;
- (2) understands that the overloaded minibus taxi carrying 22 school pupils and 2 adults crashed into a bollard in front of Parliament after allegedly jumping a red robot, resulting in injuries to several pupils;
- (3) acknowledges that a sturdy metal bollard prevented the minibus from ramming Parliament's gates and it missed the statue by a few metres;
- (4) recalls that children were treated at the scene and then taken to Groote Schuur, District Six and Somerset Hospitals;
- (5) calls upon the relevant authorities to investigate the circumstances of the accident and leave no stone unturned to ensure the safety of the children; and
- (6) wishes the injured pupils involved in the crash a speedy recovery.

Agreed to.

21. Ms V P Malomane moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes with deep sadness the passing of television and film icon, Mr Aaron Arthur Shona Ferguson from Covid-19-related complications on Friday, 30 July 2021, at the Milpark private hospital;
- (2) recalls that Shona's career began more than a decade ago and he has featured in big productions such as *Muvhango*, *The Wild*, *Rockville* and the Netflix drama series *Kings of Joburg*;
- (3) further recalls that he was most popular for the role of robotic Jerry Maake on *The Queen*, a Ferguson Films production;
- (4) acknowledges that he, along with his wife, Connie Ferguson established Ferguson Films in 2010 and both starred in the company's first TV production, *Rockville*;
- (5) further acknowledges that they both set up The Ferguson Foundation in 2010, a programme dedicated to supporting future industry leaders by empowering them in business, education, and film;
- (6) remembers that in 2020, Ferguson made his Netflix debut, partnering with the streaming service on the six-part series *Kings of Joburg*; and

- (7) conveys its condolences to his wife Connie Ferguson, the entire family and entertainment industry at large.

Agreed to.

22. Ms N Sharif moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes the great work being done by the youth-driven #LangaForMen to fight gender-based violence and femicide in and around Langa;
- (2) further notes that #LangaForMen was founded by Mr Luyolo Lengisi and Mr Siyabonga Khusela in August 2019, with the goal of creating safe spaces for all genders and cultivating a society where every gender comes together to fight for the rights of women and young girls, and to end gender-based violence;
- (3) acknowledges that #LangaForMen's goal is to reprogramme the social fabric and that it works directly with boys and men through the *Boys to Men* campaign, youth empowerment sessions, educational camps, hiking, healing sessions, boys' workshops and sports to achieve this goal; and
- (4) congratulates Mr Lengisi and Mr Khusela on their great work and wishes them well in their future endeavours.

Agreed to.

23. Mr M G E Hendricks moved without notice: That the House -

- (1) notes the nomination of Ms Shahnaaz Paruk, Chief Executive Officer of Penny Appeal South Africa, for Sunday World Heroic Women Award;
- (2) further notes that Paruk is from Overport, Durban in KwaZulu-Natal and comes from a family in the clothing manufacturing industry;
- (3) acknowledges Penny Appeal SA as a non-profit organisation that provides humanitarian support to marginalised societies in South Africa;
- (4) further acknowledges that under her leadership at Penny Appeal SA since 2007, she has established food gardens in schools, delivered 10 000 food packs and 3000 vouchers to families as part of its Covid Response Project;
- (5) understands that in conjunction with the Tutu Desk Foundation, she has facilitated the provision of 2 000 mobile desks to needy school children in Limpopo;

- (6) further understands that she supports the Ihata shelter in Heideveld on the Cape Flats, a safe place for abused women and children;
- (7) recognises that she attended school at Ridge Park College until Grade 10 and completed matric at the Lockhat Islamia College in Durban;
- (8) further recognises that she studied Media and Communications before joining the family business in the Marketing and Human Resources Department, and studied further at the Gordon Institute of Business Science;
- (9) recalls and acknowledges her previous position at the South African National Zakaah Fund (SANZAF) where she worked in skills development projects, and later her role at the humanitarian organisation, Islamic Relief where she was responsible for multiple roles during her tenure; and
- (10) congratulates Ms Paruk on her nomination.

Agreed to.

- 24. [17:31] Notices of motion.
- 25. The House adjourned at 17: 39.

P N TYAWA
Acting Secretary to Parliament