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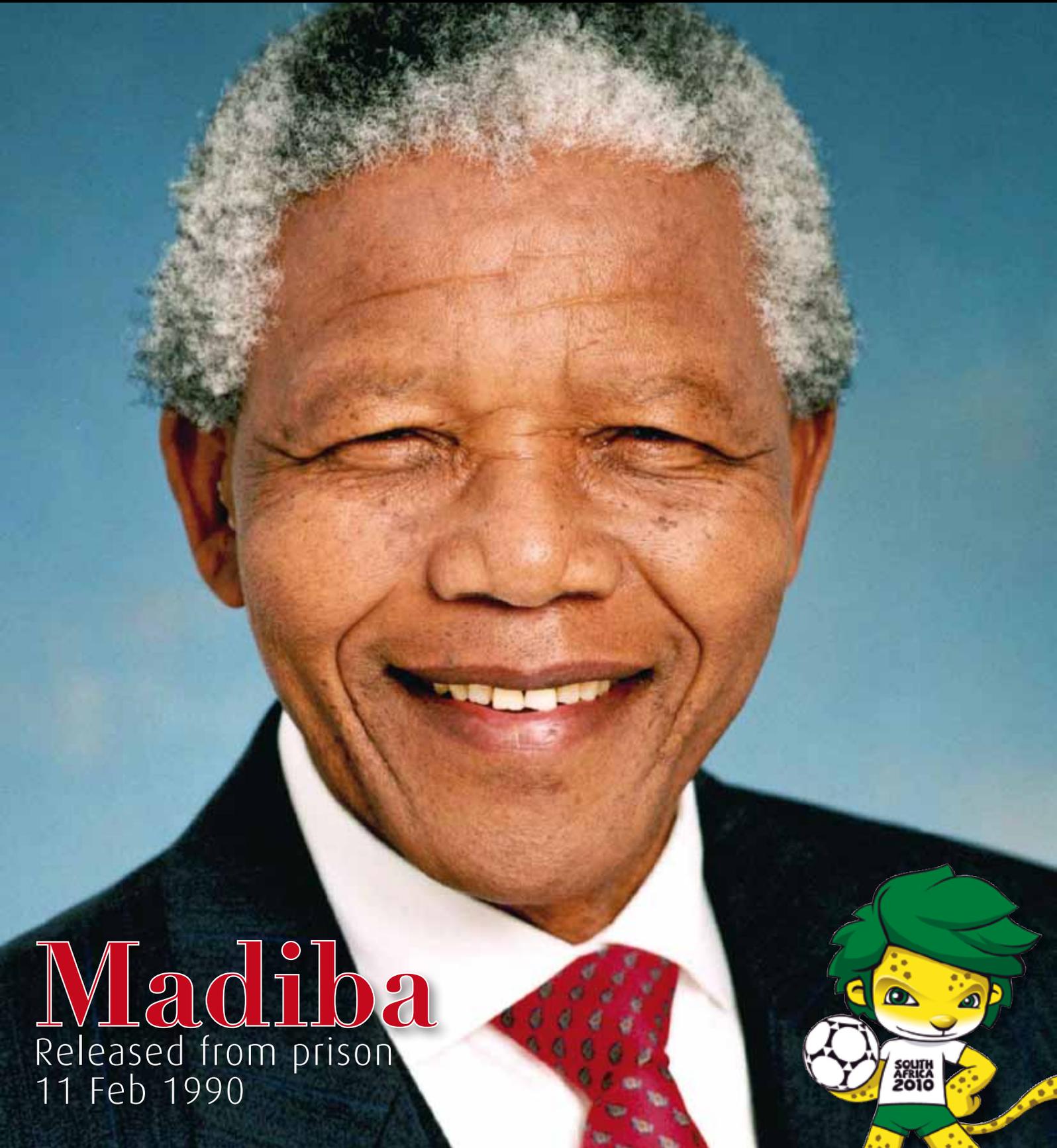


PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

"Celebrate the legacy of Mandela: contribute to nation-building"

Vol. 10 ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2010



Madiba

Released from prison
11 Feb 1990



FIFA 2010 WORLD CUP SOCCER



OVER **9500** YOUNG SOUTH AFRICANS ARE TAKING PART IN A **VIRTUAL MARCH** **TO PARLIAMENT!**

They are marching to 'attend' the 2010 State of the Nation Address that will be delivered by President Zuma on Thursday, 11 February 2010.



This march is part of the **Bokamoso Ba Rona (Our Future)** national youth campaign that aims to create a space for South African youth to have their Voices Heard! This project is premised on the belief that the youth play a key role in creating and realizing a positive vision of a future South Africa, united in its diversity. It is a diverse campaign employing various tools to encourage the youth to identify and discuss the issues that confront them in their daily lives; to explore the commonalities in their experience and to identify creative solutions to these challenges.



TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS EXCITING PROJECT VISIT

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PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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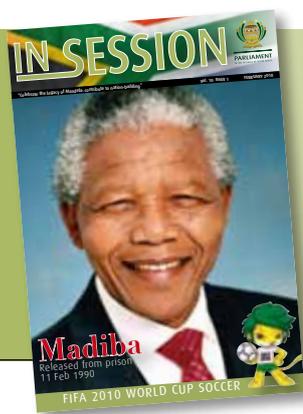
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We celebrate the release of Nelson Mandela on 11 Feb 1990 (Cover picture)

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OUR IDEALS**VISION**

To build an effective people's Parliament that is responsive to the needs of the people and that is driven by the ideal of realising a better quality of life for all the people of South Africa.

MISSION

As the freely elected representatives of the people of South Africa, our mission is to represent, and act as a voice of the people, in fulfilling our Constitutional functions of passing laws and overseeing executive action.

VALUES

Our values guide the management of Parliament. Our values are formed by that which we treasure and hold dear. It forms the foundation that will give rise to policies, which provide guidance in the implementation of everyday services and projects. The values of Parliament are derived from the role that Parliament plays in the context of our democracy. Therefore our values are formed by the people of South Africa, the Constitution, our cooperation with other arms of government, and our will to act with professionalism and good



Ad Hoc Committee on Service Delivery

The National Assembly established the Ad Hoc Committee to conduct co-ordinated oversight on service delivery under the theme "Working together to ensure the delivery of quality service to communities". The mandate of the Committee will be to enquire into the progress with regard to service delivery and, where protests took place, what the challenges are in order to table a report to the National Assembly with clear, achievable recommendations and a proposed implementation plan.

To this end, the Committee will undertake co-ordinated visits in rural and urban areas and conduct public hearings at Parliament and in the provinces. The public hearings at Parliament will take place from 2 - 4 February 2010.

During its visit to the provinces, the Committee will undertake site inspections and meet with members of the communities, Local Government officials, Provincial Government Department officials, ward committees, civil society organisations and members of the business fraternity.

Members of the public are invited to the public hearings that are scheduled to take place in the various provinces as follows:

Province	Venue	Date	Time
Mpumalanga	eMkhondo Local Municipality	22 February 2010	16:00
	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	24 February 2010	
Eastern Cape	Buffalo City Local Municipality	22 February 2010	16:00
	Great Kei Local Municipality	24 February 2010	
Western Cape	City of Cape Town	22 February 2010	16:00
		& 24 February 2010	
Gauteng	Nokeng Tsa Taemane	15 March 2010	16:00
	Emfuleni Local Municipality	17 March 2010	
Free State	Kopanong Local Municipality	15 March 2010	16:00
	Nala Local Municipality	17 March 2010	
North West	Greater Taung Local Municipality	15 March 2010	16:00
	Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality	17 March 2010	
Limpopo	Thulamela Local Municipality	19 April 2010	16:00
Northern Cape	Dikgatlong Local Municipality	19 April 2010	16:00
KwaZulu-Natal	eThekwin Metro Municipality	19 April 2010	16:00
	Msunduzi Local Municipality	21 April 2010	

Written submissions must be addressed to: The Secretary to Parliament of the RSA, PO Box 15, Cape Town 8000, for attention: Mr L Nxelewa, AE Mtiya, Ms Z Ngoma or Mr S Cassiem and must reach Parliament by no later than 22 January 2010. Provincial submissions should be submitted by no later than the dates listed below:

Provinces	Date
Mpumalanga Eastern Cape Western Cape	12 February 2010
Gauteng Free State North West	1 March 2010
Limpopo Northern Cape KwaZulu-Natal	8 April 2010

Enquiries: Ms Mtiya or Mr L Nxelewa, tel. (021) 403-3740/3734, fax: 086 544 0628 or e-mail: amtiya@parliament.gov.za or lnxelewa@parliament.gov.za

Issued by Mr SL Tsenoli (Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on Service Delivery)

Parliament. Making Democracy Work.

editor's note

We have arrived in 2010, a year that promises to be one of great significance for South Africans. The time has finally come for South Africa to host the greatest sporting event in the entire world. The 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup, the first to be hosted on the African continent, is generating interest in all corners of the country and abroad. As the Soccer Friday campaign takes root, more and more South Africans are donning soccer jerseys, especially the National Team colours, in support of Bafana Bafana.

Soccer is but one of the events we celebrate in 2010. This year is the 20th anniversary of the release of our elder statesman Nelson Mandela from Victor Verster prison (now known as Drakenstein Correctional Centre) after spending 27 years in jail. Madiba's release on 11 February 1990 paved the way for his inauguration as the first black president of democratic South Africa.

To celebrate his release a number of activities are being planned by South African organisations and institutions. To mark the occasion even President Jacob Zuma will depart from a 100 year old tradition of delivering the State of the Nation Address to a Joint Sitting of the two houses of Parliament (the National Assembly and National Council of Provinces) at 11h00 on a Friday morning, when he delivers it at 19h00 on the evening of Thursday 11 February.

This unusual move will help ensure that as many South Africans as possible, including those who are normally at work when the speech is delivered during the day, can witness the big event.

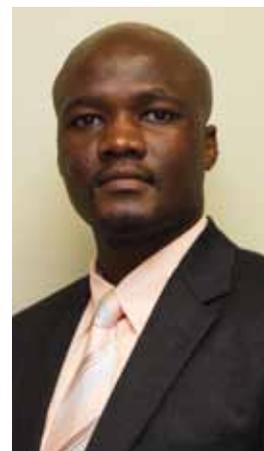
The year will not be all play (with the World Cup and celebrations) and no work. Parliament will be hard at work overseeing the government's work and hearing people's challenges. The National Council of Provinces (NCOP) through its programme *Taking Parliament to the People* will host a week-long sitting in Burgersfort, Limpopo, interacting directly with the people and hearing their issues and calling in government departments to attend to these issues.

To prepare for the big event the Chairperson of the NCOP accompanied by the deputy Chairperson and House Chairperson held a public meeting at Burgersfort to solicit inputs from community members, in order to influence the agenda for public hearings during the NCOP's weeklong *Taking Parliament to the People* in March 2010. The public meeting provided an opportunity for the people (directly and through their public representatives) to raise issues they would like to bring to the attention of the NCOP. In return, the NCOP undertook to follow up on the issues raised, have them processed by the three spheres of government and then incorporate them into its oversight programme.

Select Committees will also conduct oversight visits in Limpopo. The ad hoc Committee on Service Delivery established by the National Assembly is set to conduct co-ordinated oversight on service delivery under the theme *"Working together to ensure the delivery of quality service to communities"*. The Committee, chaired by Mr Solomon Lechesa Tsenoli, will consist of three groups and conduct public hearings in all nine provinces.

2010 will be what we (South Africans) make of it. Knowing the kind of people we are, this will not be an opportunity lost. Enjoy reading.

Momelezi Kula
editor





Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Max Sisulu

MESSAGE FROM THE presiding officers



Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, Mr Mninwa Mahlangu

No changes to format of ceremony

The holding of the State of the Nation Address in the evening on 11 February this year will not result in changes to the occasion. Since the dawn of democracy in South Africa in 1994 the ceremony has involved public participation and this will continue to deepen and expand.

Parliament's Presiding Officers acceded to the request from the Presidency for a joint sitting of Parliament's National Assembly and National Council of Provinces on the evening of 11 February 2010 to enable the President to deliver the State of the Nation Address. This information was conveyed to political parties in Parliament towards the end of 2009.

As stated by the Presidency, 11 February was chosen for this year's State of the Nation Address to celebrate the release from prison of former President Nelson Mandela 20 years ago: an event that marked a defining moment in the history of our country.

The change in time for delivery of the address is aimed at making it possible for as many South Africans as possible to be part of this vital event in the country's political calendar.

The State of the Nation Address is an occasion when the President addresses the nation in his capacity as Head of State, taking stock of South Africa's domestic and foreign situation and uniting the nation around a common understanding of the direction in which the country should be moving.

It is also one of the rare occasions when the three arms of the state- the Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislature - come together in one place.

The State of the Nation Address is an occasion like no other and this one will be a full ceremonial affair, like every year since 1994.

The ceremony involves a mounted police escort, the lining of the President's route by the South African National Defence Force, an *imbongi*, (praise singer) a national salute by the Ceremonial Guard of the SANDF, a military band (the South African Navy Band on this occasion), a fly-past by the South African Air Force and a 21-gun salute.

Parliament's guest list includes former Presidents, former deputy Presidents, former Presiding Officers of Parliament and the Judiciary, Cabinet Ministers, heads of government departments, Members of Parliament and representatives of civil society.

Civilian participation forms part of the ceremony and civilian participants include eminent South Africans from all provinces, a Civil Guard of Honour from civil society organisations and a Junior Guard of Honour from schools in the provinces.

Television and radio will carry a live broadcast of President Zuma's State of the Nation Address and it will also be available via streaming on Parliament's website, and on big screens at various public centres in the provinces. Detailed information about the State of the Nation Address will be made available closer to the event. 

parliament in-brief



AFTERMATH Haitian Presidential Palace in ruins: UN photo handout

A selection of online news

Call for relief efforts in Haiti

13 January 2010 - *The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Enterprises, Ms Vytjie Mentor, called on State-owned enterprises (SOE) to help support relief efforts for Haiti. The call follows the earthquake on 12 January that reduced government buildings and homes to rubble in the capital Port-au-Prince, claiming an estimated 200 000 people and displacing millions. Ms Mentor expressed her sympathy to the people of Haiti. She said she felt duty-bound to support the people of Haiti, and to ensure solidarity in line with the all-important mission of building a caring society.*

"It is my wish that all State-owned enterprises (SOEs) will heed this call to assist in the Haitian disaster," Ms Mentor said.

Ms Mentor hoped that SOEs like South African Airways and companies doing business with them would respond to her call speedily and meaningfully. "We are also calling for public donations in the form of water, food and blankets."

SAA offered to sponsor the flight of South African volunteers to Haiti. The Chairperson said people who wanted to help could contact her on 082 879 2241.

Press Accreditation

The State of the Nation Address to Parliament on Thursday 11 February

2010 by the President of the Republic of South Africa, Mr Jacob Zuma will be followed by a debate on Monday 15 February in the National Assembly Chamber. President Zuma is scheduled to reply to the debate on the following day (Tuesday).

Journalists and photographers who wish to cover the State of the Nation Address, the debate on the President's address, or his reply, or who wish to broadcast from the Parliamentary precinct on 11, 15 and/or 16 February 2010 were required to send their details to Nolizwi Magwagwa on 021-403 2465 or nmagwagwa@parliament.gov.za with a copy to erandall@parliament.gov.za

Details such as full name, ID/passport number, name of media organisation and media group, designation (eg writer, photographer), telephone number and/or cellphone number are essential: media members who wish to broadcast from the Parliamentary precinct should also provide details of their vehicles, including the number of vehicles, make of vehicle(s) and registration number(s), and obtain clearance certificates from service providers for temporary structures (tents, etc) specifying the type of equipment and time of arrival.

New DA Member of Parliament sworn in

A new Member of Parliament, the Democratic Alliance's Mr David Ross, was sworn in Parliament by the Speaker of the National Assembly Mr Max Sisulu on 15 December

2009. Mr Ross is from Free State and replaces Mr Cobus Schmidt who passed away on 28 November 2009.

Calls for submissions on Basic Education

The Portfolio Committee on Basic Education is calling for written submissions on aspects affecting quality outcomes in primary and high schools. These include curriculum content; teacher development; class size; managerial capacity at schools; orientating schools towards specialisation; and values in education.

Submissions are also invited on the issue of access to education, including the geographic location of schools and infrastructure; language barriers; homeless children/orphans; children in trouble with the law and education in prisons and inclusive education.

Through these submissions the Committee aims to obtain first-hand information on the pressure points and find solutions that would make positive contribution towards improving areas of concern within the basic education system.

All stakeholders and teachers in particular are urged to contribute by 28 February 2010. Submissions should be sent to Mr Llewellyn Brown, Committee Secretary – Portfolio Committee on Basic Education, National Assembly, PO Box 15 Cape Town, 8000 or email. lbrown@parliament.gov.za, fax. (021) 403 2808. For Queries: tel. (021) 403 3764, cell. 083 709 8450. 📞



Concerned: Chairperson of Portfolio Committee on Public Enterprises, Ms Vytjie Mentor

guest column

The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Enterprises, Ms Vytjie Mentor appeals for help for Haiti

Various presidents of our democratic republic have called on us to build a caring government and society, responsive to the needs of our fellow South Africans, and others. At home, these goals must translate into better human relations, fewer disparities between the rich and poor, and greater equity. Our leaders have also declared that South Africa must work with other nations in order to bring about a new world order.

The preamble to the Constitution and its founding provisions state that South Africa is part of the family of nations. This means our foundation as a nation is based on human rights, human dignity and the sanctity of life.

The calls of our various Presidents and the provisions of our Constitution must be heeded by all in our society, all in government and particularly parliamentarians, who are the bearers and custodians of the Constitution. We must heed the Constitution, and the call of the Presidents.

For this reason the work of a parliamentarian cannot and should



Sniffer dog looks for survivors in Port-au-Prince

not be confined or solely restricted to committee work, involving the Houses of Parliament, and the constituency allocated to them. It should be broad enough to reach all of society, and where possible, all of humanity.

It is on this basis that I felt a strong urge to respond to Haiti's

tragedy, and called on State-owned enterprises and civil society to join in the "Help Haiti initiative". The response has been overwhelming. I have since been joined by formations in civil society and individuals including health workers, rescuers, emergency workers, professional nurses, former military personnel, ordinary volunteers,

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30 seconds that lasted an eternity:
UN photo handouts

media houses, business people, and State-owned enterprises. We have joined hands with the Department of International Relations, and I hope this message will continue to spread to everybody across the length and breadth of South Africa, to give a helping hand to Haiti.

May those who have died be granted a decent farewell, filled with peace and human dignity. May the people of Haiti be given a chance to get their lives back together again. May all our people, including our parliamentarians, give them a helping hand.

Ms Vytjie Mentor is a Member of Parliament and Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Enterprises. People who want to help can contact her on 082 879 2241.

To comment on this column, e-mail insession@parliament.gov.za





Fifa kickstarts African renaissance

Early bird tactics worked, says Local Organising Committee

by Abel Mputing



Each successive World Cup overtakes all other sporting events in terms of world coverage. So Dr Irvin Khoza, Chairperson of the 2010 World Cup Local Organising Committee, (LOC) is on top of the world as the biggest sports event of the new millennium gathers momentum.

Dr Khoza says without Parliament's support the LOC would not have

succeeded in meeting FIFA's requirements of a host nation. "From the onset, the success of our 2010 World Cup hinged on government guarantees. When the government enacted the Special Measures Bill, the then deputy President Jacob Zuma signed them four years earlier than any FIFA World Cup hosting nation has done. We pride ourselves in our government for dispelling Afro-pessimism: without its support

we would not have managed to successfully meet all the FIFA requirements of a host nation," Dr Khoza said. He made this remark recently when the LOC came to Parliament to give guarantees about South Africa's state of readiness. The Chief Executive of the LOC, Dr Danny Jordaan, presented a detailed progress report to the Portfolio Committees whose departments have pledged guarantees. They enquired



LOC visits Parliament: Dr Danny Jordaan CEO, Dr Irvin Khoza Chairperson, Mr Kirsten Nematandani SAFA President and Mr Leslie Sedibe, SAFA Chief Executive

about the status, efficiency and readiness of the country's transport infrastructure to accommodate an expected influx of supporters from across the globe: "Government is well on track with the rollout of the R13.6 billion Public Transport Infrastructure and Systems (PTIS) project which includes Bus Rapid Transport systems, public transport corridors, inter-modal facilities, freeway expansions and road upgrades. Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) is also spending R19.5 billion on airport upgrades to deal with the need for increased capacity. The recent opening of the new, expanded Cape Town International Airport Terminal is one such example," Dr Jordaan said.

The Committees also wanted clarity and guarantees about returns on the country's estimated R28 billion

Each World Cup has been bigger than all other events in the history of sport.

investment in this potential epic showpiece. Dr Jordaan referred to the social and economic legacies that the World Cup would leave in its wake. "Football for Hope is a social legacy aimed at building 20 centres of education, public health and football across Africa. The construction of one of these centres, which are meant to educate young boys and girls about how to live free of HIV, is underway in Khayelitsha."

He quoted predictions by Grant Thornton research company that the event could contribute R55.7 billion to the local economy between 2006 and 2010. "The millions of visitors to South Africa will boost opportunities in accommodation, health services, event management, logistics, arts, craft and entertainment. The number of visitors is still expected to grow to 10 million in 2010 despite the economic slowdown. The World Cup has also been a catalyst for the building of around 25 new hotels in the past few years."

At a joint sitting of the National Assembly and National Council of Provinces to debate the 2010 World Cup, the Deputy Minister of Sport and Recreation, Mr Gert Oosthuizen, commended the LOC's work: "It may be the culmination of years of work and toil, but the 2010 FIFA World Cup is only the start. We as a country did not decide to host the tournament

just so that we could bring some of the world's best footballers to Africa. We hosted it because we knew the long-lasting effects of 2010. It will be the catalyst for a South Africa that has risen from the ashes of the past and in 15 short years has taken its place as a world-class country," Mr Oosthuizen said.

Ms Wendy Makgale of the ANC, said 2010 was living proof of FIFA's belief in the African Renaissance. "When they awarded us the 2010 World Cup, FIFA took into consideration our country's political legitimacy as perhaps the defining requirement. Moreover, it sought to convince the world that the African Renaissance was indeed a reality."

Mr Donald Lee, DA Shadow Minister of Sport and Recreation, said the 2010 tournament's contribution to the nation was something no amount of money could buy. "The World Cup is a priceless example of everything we can be as individuals and as a nation; it is evidence of our ability and proof of our will to succeed. It will provide a reservoir of self-belief that will benefit us long after the final whistle has been blown."

Mr Graham Mackenzie, of COPE, said the event was living proof that the misgivings many had about our ability to host this tournament had been misplaced.

Turning the corner

Indaba to align State-owned enterprises to national targets

by Abel Mputing

State-owned enterprises should not only push for profit, but also play an active role in realising the imperatives of a developmental state. This reminder comes from the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on State-Owned Enterprises, Ms Vytjie Mentor: "The boards and management of State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) run their entities as if they are Stock Exchange companies whose sole interest is to chase profits. In the process they discard the developmental agenda of the State, which has to consider job creation, skills development and economic growth." Ms Mentor spoke after the Committee's recent oversight visits, and meetings with the boards and management of SOEs, including South African Airways, Eskom and Denel.

SAA's performance up to the end of March 2009 was particularly impressive, coming after seven lean years: "SAA Profit for the year under review is R398 million, far better than the R1-billion loss the entity made in the previous financial year." SAA had shed 2 000 jobs in the process. The turnaround could also be attributed to the successful renegotiation of the Airbus contract, resulting in a R408 million reversal of pre-delivery payments.

Transnet, according to its financial report, made a profit of R4.5 billion for the year under review, about a billion less than the R5.5 billion the entity reported for the previous financial year. All the operating divisions increased profit compared to the previous financial year,

with the exception of the National Port Authority whose terminals experienced a sharp decline in container, break-bulk and vehicle volumes. Transnet also spent R19,4 billion during the financial year on its infrastructure programme.

Ms Mentor said there was a need for more synergy between the SOEs. Without it, no co-operation had developed between the SOEs: "I can't understand why, for instance, Transnet's sister company Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA) when they want to refurbish or renovate carriages, are not obliged to use the services of the Transnet rail freight division, and awards tenders to private entities instead. Money that could strengthen the parent company's coffers is often lost to competitors in this way. There should be a regulation to ensure that Transnet is PRASA's first option."

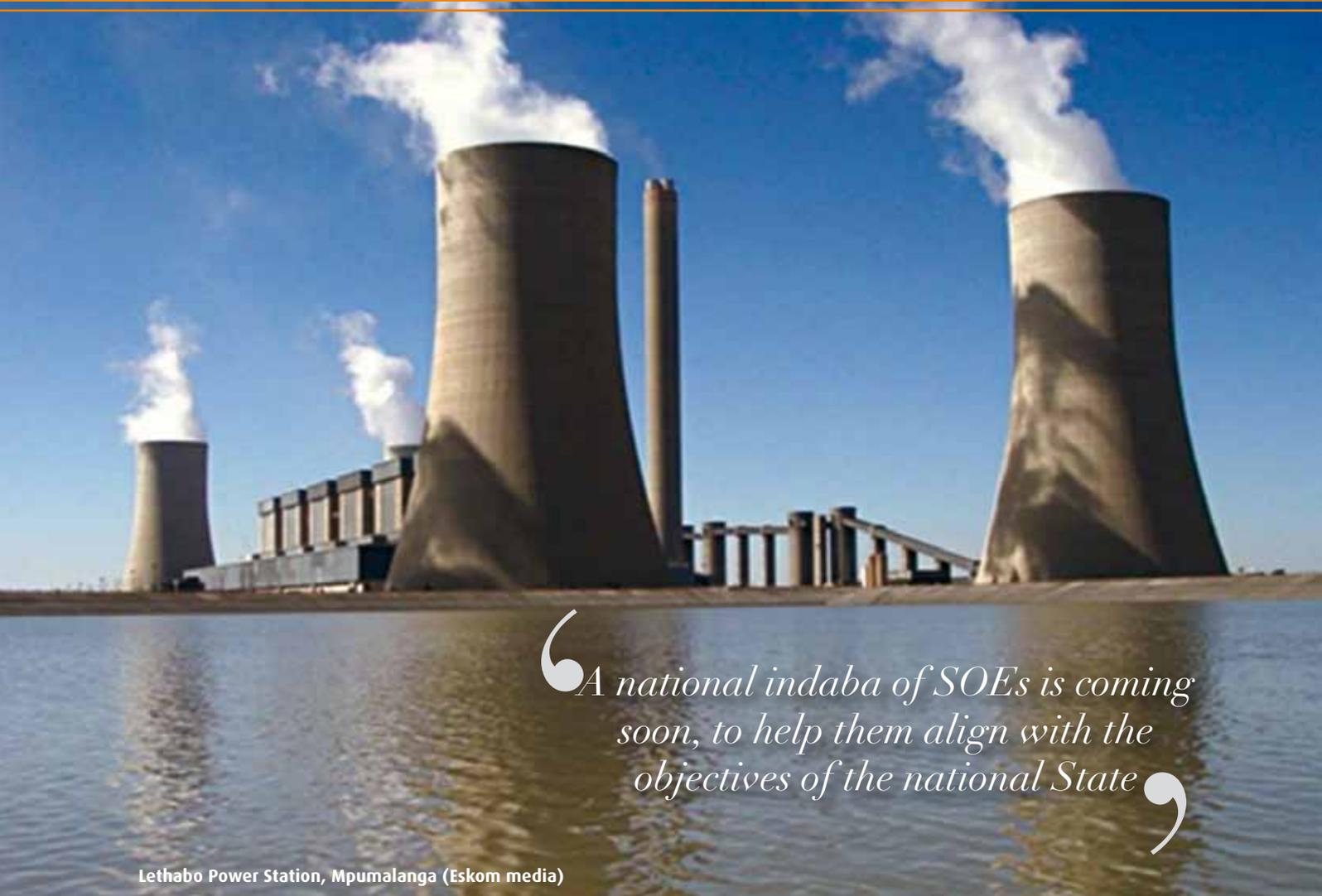
She feels the responsibilities of the SOEs boards and management are not clearly defined, and this impacts on corporate governance: "Many SOEs have a skewed hierarchical relationship, with Chairpersons acting in non-executive capacities, while their Chief Operations Officers, who structurally should be their juniors, are in charge. It creates an organisational nightmare as there are no clear lines of reporting and accountability."

Ms Mentor says this not only skews the lines of reporting, but also complicated issues of accountability. "Currently, there is confusion regarding accountability at SOEs and how exactly they relate to the

Committee. They need to understand that the Committee on State-Owned Enterprises is the one that should conduct oversight over them, because we approve their budgets. If that is not resolved, many SOEs will continue to think that the Minister of Public Enterprises is their sole shareholder and the only person to account to."

She says the Eskom and Transnet debacles of recent times supported her point. "We respect the internal governance structures of these entities, but where there are serious allegations of incompetence or mismanagement against senior managers, such allegations must have documented evidence. Otherwise there must be recommendations of corrective measures and proof of how these corrective measures are implemented. Above all, the Committee must be informed of what is happening, and of pending dismissal or disciplinary action by SOEs against their management. We should not hear about it in the press," she said.

Ms Mentor said the financial performance of these entities was not as bad as many thought: "SAA and Transnet have turned the corner and are in good health and so are their future financial projections. Eskom, although it has attracted bad news of late, has not done that badly. Its current accounting losses are the result of various long-term business insurance contracts, for instance the coal contracts they entered into, and long term electricity supply contracts with aluminium smelters," she said. 🌱



“A national indaba of SOEs is coming soon, to help them align with the objectives of the national State”

Lethabo Power Station, Mpumalanga (Eskom media)



Lining up for 2010 (SAA media)



Back to basics

Should education go back to the 3 Rs?

by Jackie Adriaans

In a bid to improve the basic education system in South Africa, Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Basic Education has invited the public to make written submissions by the end of February 2010. This is the Committee's boldest move since being appointed after the 2009 election to focus on the delivery of quality education in South Africa, and the many challenges facing educators.

A first step is to address the current poor record of South African children in literacy, numeracy and mathematics. That's according to Ms Agatha Labethe, the Director of the Mathematics Education Primary Programme (MEPP). She says recent curriculum development trends have created even more confusion and this has influenced learner performance. Ms Labethe believes that the school curriculum is overloaded and needs streamlining: "Curriculum policies need to be analysed, along with the teaching and learning system. They need to be coherent and clear, and they must offer guidance," she said.

The Portfolio Committee on Basic Education says it wants members of the public to express their concerns about the current state of basic education in South Africa. An area of concern

is the lack of support for teacher development, which appears to be out of alignment with the curriculum. Teachers lack support in terms of teaching methodologies and classroom management skills.

A senior lecturer at the University of Cape Town's School of Education, Dr Ursula Hoadley, sees Parliament's role as ensuring equitable practice across the different provinces. This means distributing resources fairly and assigning capacity evenly, to produce quality education. She says the process presents an opportunity to give people a view of what is happening at South African schools.

"Special educational needs and proper teacher support are big challenges. The matter of managerial and financial capacity at schools, the relationship between School Governing Bodies (SGBs) and communities, as well as time management in respect of instruction time, needs immediate attention," she said.

The Portfolio Committee will watch out for this when it receives input from the public early this year, says the Chairperson, Ms Fatima Chohan: "If we consider that we had to take an education system designed to

serve a minority and stretch it to serve the majority of our people, we can appreciate the huge challenge around infrastructure and resources. Couple that with a culture that developed in response to a concerted effort to design an inferior schooling system for the majority, and you realise that the legacy of apartheid education is still very much with us".

Ms Chohan said the Committee was calling for written submissions on aspects affecting quality outcomes in schools, including curriculum development, teacher development, class size, managerial capacity at schools, orientating schools towards specialisation and values in education. Submissions are also invited on the issue of access to education. Despite increased spending on education, learning outcomes (particularly in the Foundation and Intermediate phases) remain below the desired standard of 50%, in mathematics, natural sciences and the language of instruction. 🌱

*** The deadline for written submissions to the Portfolio Committee is 28 February 2010. The date for the public hearings will be decided thereafter.**

Limpopo FET under scrutiny

'Low pass rate, too few qualified lecturers'

by Abel Mputing

The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training, Mr Marius Fransman, says in spite of a huge injection of funds into Further Education and Training (FET), the sector is still hampered by "a low throughput rate" and not enough qualified lecturers. In a report to Parliament on a recent Portfolio Committee visit to Giyani in Limpopo, Mr Fransman said this was tarnishing the image of further education.

The Portfolio Committee recently conducted its oversight in Limpopo's greater Giyani Municipality to assess the progress made in implementing the *Kha Ri Gude* (Let's learn) mass literacy campaign.

"The resuscitation of FET Colleges is crucial to the Skills Development Strategy for Higher Education in the

region. Of R1.9 billion invested in FETs nationally, Limpopo Province received R221 million, and the Committee went there to oversee the process.

Mr Fransman's impression was that "despite the massive investment in this education sector, it continues to encounter major challenges of a low throughput rate and unqualified lecturers." On the one hand, this has contributed to the poor perception of this education sector and on the other hand, it has fallen short of its intended objectives. According to Mr Fransman "the poor infrastructure for student support services at the FET College at Letaba defeats the intent of the Skills Development Strategy for Higher Education and FETs."

Launched in 2008, the *Kha Ri Gude* (Let's learn) mass literacy campaign has been commended

for developing high-rated materials in all languages including braille and signing, but it is still far from achieving its targets.

A major contributing factor to illiteracy in this district is the absence of education and training colleges. The former Giyani College of Education which played a big role in producing teachers in the district has since been converted into circuit offices of the Provincial Department of Education and a residence for nursing students. "In the long term, the former Giyani College of Education should be re-opened to offer teacher training within the parameters of the Department of Higher Education and Training. Its unused language laboratory and resources centre buildings must be put to good use," according to the report.

Early preparation for matric is vital to success in tertiary education



Through the Lens





Parliament's rugby squad on a visit to United Kingdom and Ireland (see page 28)

Q & A

Looking back with the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Transport Ruth Bhengu



What have been some of your duties?

My first role was to develop a programme that the Committee could follow in executing its duties of oversight over the Executive, and the entities that report to the Department of Transport. The Portfolio Committee had to lead discussions when it came to the Bills and other legislation-related work that came up. We visited institutions and provinces to examine transport issues. We also undertook study tours to other countries to learn how things are done elsewhere. In that way, we transferred ideas and skills that can be useful here. This all entails many meetings. My role in meetings is to explain their purpose and to run the meeting in a way that everybody understands.

What were your first priorities for the year?

We spent the parliamentary recess developing the programme of the Committee, and following up on issues in the Department of Transport (DoT) report as well as the legacy report of the former Chairperson. At present I interact with the Minister. The Committee's oversight role has to calibrate with the direction the Minister wants to set for the Department of Transport.

In what way does transport reflect "the heartbeat of economic and social transformation" as you put it?

Take the road infrastructure and transportation as the blood and

the veins through which it flows. They are centered on social and economic development, and if you put them together they form the content and the infrastructure. The infrastructure and the content are equally important, and once you have them in balance, economic and social transformation can begin to take place. In this country, nothing moves without transport.

Why do think the transformation of the transport infrastructure is moving at a slow pace, and who should be setting the pace?

The ruling party sets the pace. Its policies become those of government, and if its policies are correct, so are those of government. Everybody agrees that there is nothing wrong with the direction, but what it lacks is pace. When you approve something you have to allocate financial resources, equivalent to your programme of transformation. In this case, a structure was approved without allocating adequate resources.

What worries you most about the transport infrastructure?

It is a question of priorities and using available resources optimally. I do not see how we can continue to allow degradation of railway lines and rolling stock when there is such a problem of transporting goods and people. We end up using roads that suffer damage at a faster rate, because of the heavy trucks and the traffic flow on the roads. Our rail infrastructure requires upgrading to

enable fast trains to function. It's a question of limited resources and their optimal usage.

Why do you often refer to the Masakhane Campaign?

To me, it made sense because one of the principles of Masakhane was that it had to encourage a culture of community ownership of public facilities provided by government. Look around where we are today: why did we have to vandalize these facilities? If we carried on with that campaign, maybe people would not view public facilities differently from private ones. Where is a sense of public ownership, if it comes from government? If we had stuck with the Masakhane principle in the same way we are promoting Batho pele, it might have got through to people that "it is actually my money that built that school."

During the budget vote debate, what did you mean by "unclear balance between maintenance, upgrading and provision of services to road infrastructure?"

A lack of road maintenance has resulted in bad potholes in many roads, resulting in road accidents and the Department of Transport being sued for damages. The money that the Department spends defending road accident cases in court, and paying for damages, was supposed to have been spent on maintenance, and upgrading the road infrastructure. The Committee will engage the Department and the Road Accident Fund on this issue. 🗣️

Anti-violence turns 10

...but no change in sight, yet

by Jackie Adriaans

Despite a world-renowned Constitution and a legislative overhaul designed to safeguard the rights of women and children, South Africa still has very high levels of violence against its most vulnerable citizens. With these words, the deputy Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, Ms Thandi Memela, launched the tenth annual campaign for 16 Days of Activism of No Violence Against Women and Children in Parliament last November. Addressing Cape Town based non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs) and faith-based organisations (FBOs), Ms Memela said "Gender-based violence in its different guises is incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human being, and must be eliminated."

She stressed that as the voice of the people, including the vulnerable, Parliament has a vital role in advocating the creation of a society that respects and cares for people. In 15 years of democracy, Parliament has developed a strong legislative framework to protect people's rights, and passed progressive laws such as the Domestic Violence Act, Children's Act and Older Persons Act to empower women and children, and to help improve everyone's quality of

life. Women have more access to basic services, and better socio-economic and political opportunities: but in spite of these milestones, far too many incidents of violence are being perpetrated against women and children. In fact, the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development has estimated that one in every four women in South Africa has survived domestic abuse.

Ms Memela says young girls are particularly vulnerable to abuse by their protectors. In some rural areas girl children are still treated as commodities for trade. She says patriarchy is one of the biggest threats to society, but practices such as *ukuthwala* (forced marriages) and female genital mutilation also continue the cycle of abuse of women and children. "If the victim is financially dependent on the perpetrator, it often leads to women staying in abusive relationships," she said.

Adv. Kamraj Anirudhra of the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) says partnerships, for example with the corporate sector, are needed to break the cycle of violence. "A supportive economic environment can create an opportunity for women to become economically independent. Economic independence will give women the

strength to stand up and turn their backs on violence and abuse," he said.

The issues of concern raised by the organisations included:

- The lack of government funding for NGOs, CBOs and FBOs
- The damaging impact of substance abuse and alcohol on communities
- The ineffectiveness of protection orders
- Lack of police training to deal with domestic violence.

"Where we need to tighten some of our laws, we must do so," Ms Memela said. She emphasised the need for Parliament to strengthen its oversight role, to ensure that the relevant legislation was fully implemented. Ms Memela paid tribute to NGOs, CBOs and FBOs who were often first to help victims of abuse.

The 16 Days of Activism Campaign runs from International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November, to 10 December, International Human Rights Day. People are invited to wear white ribbon over this period to symbolise personal and organisational commitment to the Campaign. 2009 marked the 10-year anniversary of the 16 Days Campaign. This is a global effort to put an immediate end to violence against women, but in South Africa children have been added to the campaign. This is in recognition of their rights also being enshrined in the Constitution and due to the high incidence of child abuse. The period includes Universal Children's Day, which has been celebrated globally for 55 years, and the World Health Organisation's World AIDS Day, which has been celebrated for the past 21 years.

Say it loud: representatives of civil society at 2009 launch of 16 Days campaign





Good evening:

This is the State of the Nation Address

by Jackie Adriaans

President Nelson Mandela's steps to freedom on 11 February 1990 changed the face of South Africa forever. That momentous day 20 years ago will be remembered when for the first time in its history, the State of the Nation Address is delivered in the evening. President Jacob Zuma chose to celebrate the historic event by giving his second State of the Nation Address to a joint sitting of the fourth Parliament, at 19h00 on Thursday 11 February 2010.

Parliament said in a statement that the annual State of the Nation Address will not be downscaled from the annual "red carpet" welcoming that accompanies the State of the Nation Address to the first Joint sitting of Parliament. Visitors will once more share in this extraordinary

ceremony. Hundreds of spectators will be watching the Presidential procession, and the proceedings will be broadcast live on television and radio to viewers and listeners at home. Parliament traditionally opens on a Friday morning, with the President's speech to a joint sitting of the Houses Parliament at 11h00.

More than 400 invited members of the public members will also be in the gallery for their turn to listen to the President delivering his State of the Nation Address. This component includes members of civil society organisations such as trade unions, business, NGOs and CBOs, academics and researchers and religious leaders.



Learners enjoy forming the Junior Guard of Honour

Lining the red carpet will be a Civil Guard of Honour with more than 100 representatives of non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs), and a Junior Guard of Honour made up of more than 200 learners from schools in the Provinces. Parliament's Public Relations Manager, Ms Lydia Radebe says "This particular State of the Nation Address is a celebration of Mandela's legacy, which is related to what Parliament stands for: principles such as forgiveness, humility, good governance, tolerance, equality and a collective effort to ease the burden of poverty and social ills."

The opening procession usually includes the provincial Premiers, the Speakers of Legislatures, the country's Judge Presidents, followed by the

deputy President and the President. The Parliament Street leg of the Presidential procession is where members of the public get to participate. The President will also be honoured by a group of eminent persons, who represent the nine Provinces, plus a national representative nominated by Parliament's Presiding Officers. As part of the special celebration, members of the National Reception Committee have been invited as eminent persons.

The Parliamentary Communication Services has again run a competition to give one young person from each of the nine provinces an opportunity to win a seat to the opening. Seats have also been set aside for the top grade 12 learners and nine best-

performing teachers from all the provinces.

The National Department of Education has made the relevant information available to Parliament.

Completing the procession are various performers, including an *imbongi* (praise singer) extolling the Presidential party as it makes its way towards the National Assembly Chamber, where the President's address will take place.

Parliament's Public Education Office is arranging a programme for the Guards of Honour, aimed at providing information about Parliament and the State of the Nation Address. This includes educational material and a tour of Parliament. The head of communications in Parliament, Mr Luzuko Jacobs, said "we received a request from the Presidency that the opening be on Thursday evening and we have acceded to the request."

Mr Jacobs said this year's evening State of the Nation Address would be preceded by the usual military parade and pomp. The 21-gun salute by the South African National Defence Force, national anthem by the Navy Band and a fly-past by South African Air Force jets against the early evening sky could be particularly spectacular.

President Zuma's spokesperson Mr Vincent Magwenya said the unprecedented change was made to allow more South Africans the opportunity to follow the president's message on television. "The President changed the time to 19h00 to afford all South Africans, especially the workers, students and schoolchildren an opportunity to watch the proceedings in their homes after hours." 

One of the most important functions of Parliament is to discuss and pass the government's annual budget. The budget is a plan indicating what the government wants to achieve and how it will spend the money to achieve those goals. It is the most important economic instrument of the government and gives a clear indication of its priorities for the year. Every year, the Minister of Finance introduces the Budget in Parliament. It is discussed in Committees and debated in the two Houses, and a vote is taken before it is adopted and implemented.

The national budget is unlike most other budgets as it indicates how money will be spent, and gives details of how funds must be raised to cover the country's expenditure. The State receives revenue from taxes and other sources, which is spent in order to provide services to the country's people. Taxes are statutory payments made to the Receiver of Revenue, by individuals, businesses and any other tax-liable body.

The Budget cycle

It takes up to 14 months to prepare the budget. This means that by the time the Budget is introduced in Parliament, the Budget for the following year has been in preparation for two months. It is quite a long and involved process because each budget is part of a three-year plan referred to as the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). Apart from expenditure for the coming year, which is voted on by Parliament, the government presents its planning for the following two fiscal years. The MTEF enables departments to do medium-term planning and to get a holistic view of their needs and capabilities.

The fiscal framework of the Department of Finance

Before governments can plan their spending, they need to know how much money will become available. The Department of Finance and the Reserve Bank estimate how much revenue the government will receive from tax and other sources. Economists and financial experts assist departments to make these projections based on the country's prevailing and expected economic conditions. Based on the projections, the Department of Finance draws up a fiscal framework which indicates how much revenue is expected to become available for spending.

Proposed expenditures by the National and Provincial Departments

When drawing up their budgets, national and provincial departments estimate their needs and how they can plan to meet them. These are submitted to the Department of Finance, which draws up a summary showing the

planned expenditure of the various departments.

Dividing the revenue

The Fiscal and Financial Commission is a body created by the Constitution to recommend how the country's revenue should be divided. A number of provincial factors such as the poverty levels and size of population are taken into account before any money is allocated. The division of the country's revenue is done as fairly as possible, and before making a final decision on what each province and each department is to get, there is some negotiation. However, the final decision lies with the Minister of Finance and his structure. The provincial cabinet of each province allocates money to its various departments. Once the decisions are finalised a budget policy statement is released and the national and provincial departments refine their proposals to reflect aspects of the budget policy statement.

The Budget Speech

A specific day is set aside in February

How the Budget works for us

February is budget month in Parliament

Supplied by the Public Education Office



of each year for the Minister of Finance to deliver the Budget speech in the National Assembly. The speech normally follows a fixed pattern. It starts off with a review of the country's economic affairs, gives a review of the previous year's financial results and expectations for the coming financial year (1 April of a year to 31 March of the following year). It then states how the estimated income and expenditure will be balanced, and that is when people hear what taxes will be raised or lowered.

Tabling the Bills in the National Assembly

The Minister of Finance tables three Bills in the National Assembly. These are:

- the Division of Revenue Bill,
- the Appropriation Bill and
- the Income Tax Laws Amendment Bill

The Division of Revenue Bill specifies how money will be divided among the spheres of government and the provinces for the coming year.

The Appropriation Bill indicates how money will be divided among national departments and State institutions. The Income Tax Laws Amendment Bill brings indicates the changes to the

various tax laws so that government can raise the required revenue.

The budget Bills are debated and voted on in the National Assembly. They are then sent to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) for further consideration. The Division of Revenue Bill affects the Provinces directly and therefore the NCOP must consider it before it becomes law.

The Standing Committee and the Select Committee on Finance discuss the budget Bills, organise public hearings and receive submissions from the public on what should be included in the Budget. Budgets of national departments are discussed in the Committees that oversee the specific departments. After the Committees have completed their work, they submit their reports to the relevant Houses of Parliament.

Approval of budget votes and the Budget

After each budget vote is debated, both Houses of Parliament must vote on it. Once the budget is passed by

Parliament, the departments can be given permission to use funds for their identified projects.

Parliamentary Control of the budget

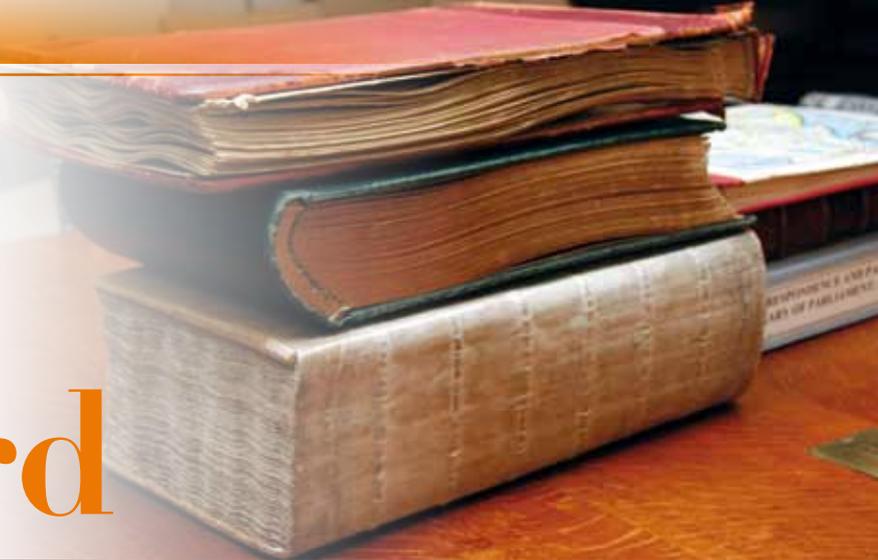
Revenue collection and expenditure must be monitored to ensure that money is spent as intended by Parliament. The Auditor-General reports to Parliament about whether instructions for expenditure have been complied with. Parliament also has the power to make adjustments to budgets of the national departments to ensure that public needs are prioritised

How you can get involved in the Budget and Parliament

Every responsible citizen pays tax, and tries to ensure that their business dealings are open and honest. You can make your voice heard by attending public hearings on the budget or by making submissions, including written submissions, on issues you think are important.



Hansard



The record of proceedings that is made and preserved for both Houses of Parliament and extended Committee meetings is called Hansard, and it plays a big role in preserving an accurate account of what occurs in the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa. Hansard has undergone many changes over the years since it first took root in the Westminster parliamentary system.

Initially there was strong opposition in England to any publication of parliamentary speeches and decrees, either for fear of misrepresentation or simply because the public's opinion was not to be tolerated. In the earliest decrees of Britain's Parliament, the *Modus Tenendi Parliamentum*, it was stipulated that no parliamentary material was to be distributed in public, and a member who wanted a copy of the proceedings had to pay one penny for every ten lines.

In 1641 the House of Commons decided that any member had to obtain express permission to disseminate information. England's first "Prime Minister" Robert Walpole, who dominated both the Treasury and Parliament for 20 years, said in 1738 that if coverage of debates were allowed, there would be no way of stopping the ensuing misrepresentation.

Luke Hansard trained as a printer and showed great talent for accuracy while working for the firm that did the printing for the Commons. The speed with which he completed a report on the French Revolution in 1789 impressed Prime Minister William Pitt, and when there was a printer's strike in 1805, Hansard and his sons coped with all Parliament's work. Thomas Hansard inherited his father's talent

for accuracy, and firmly established the family tradition. As a unique privilege, newspapers were only allowed into Westminster from 1835 and if they published inaccuracies, their accreditation was withdrawn.

South Africa approached other Commonwealth countries shortly after the formation of Union in 1910, for advice on the desirability of publishing a Hansard. Canada, which already had a Hansard, was particularly frank in its advice to steer clear because it "encouraged members to make long-winded and tedious speeches in the hope of seeing their names in print."

It was eventually decided that a Cape newspaper would print its coverage of debates in booklet form, for which it received a tidy sum. The coverage took the form of a summary rather than a verbatim account, and because of frequent complaints from Members of Parliament, the practice was later stopped.

From 1915 to 1923 the coverage of three newspapers (Cape Times, Die Burger and *Ons Land*) was cut out and pasted in book form, the only record left of that era. From 1924 both the Assembly and the Senate opted for a verbatim coverage, initially in English and Dutch, until the latter was replaced by Afrikaans, as the other official language. In the apartheid years, senior journalists and their organisations were often taken to task by successive heads of State who did not like their interpretation of events, and rather than risk being suspended some publishers chose to toe the line.

For many decades in South Africa it was forbidden for members of the public to take notes in the public gallery, and this rule has

been dropped by the democratic Parliament. According to the Secretary of the National Assembly Mr Kamal Mansura: "The Constitution encourages public participation, and people can take notes while sitting in the public gallery," he said.

Mr Mansura said formal news coverage was provided for by allowing journalists free access to proceedings, including most of the Committee meetings. However, visitors were not discouraged from taking notes, to help refresh their memories. The democratic Parliament of South Africa has continued the tradition of publishing what is known simply as Hansard, the official report of Parliament, and its reports are eventually posted on the internet. Hansard covers proceedings as the debates unfold in plenary sitting of the National Assembly or the National Council of Provinces, or if the two Houses hold a joint sitting.

Hansard is a first-person, largely verbatim, written account of proceedings. This means it directly reflects what the speaker says, with a few minor edits where required to remove mistakes, repetitions, or redundancies. It is translated into English if the speaker used any other official language. Ideally, the edited and printed version of Hansard reflects the words of the speaker, with most of the rough edges removed, but none of the meaning. It comes complete with most of the audible interjections of the speaker's political foes, or friends, and of course, the Presiding Officer, whose rulings are crucial. If there is response to interjections, they are included in Hansard, otherwise they are just reflected as "interjections".

The legacy of Dr Manto

working for a smoke-free SA



Of the 6,8 billion global population in 2010, an estimated 1,3 billion smoke cigarettes: nearly one in five people. Tobacco companies are now targeting Africa, and women.

Mr Peter Ucko, Director of the National Council Against Smoking (NACAS), says the Tobacco Products Control Amendment Act of 1999 signed by President Nelson Mandela created one of the most effective tobacco control policies in the world. Further amendments have been enacted to ensure optimal tobacco control, and the legislation to reduce smoking is working. Currently an estimated 22% of South Africans over the age of 15 are regular smokers. South Africans smoke 50 million cigarettes a day, including 10 million illegal imports. Until recently tobacco products have attracted increasingly higher "sin tax" each year, but this may even out with efforts being aimed at illegal imports.

NACAS says it is thanks to the late Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang that South Africa's sporting heroes are no longer "walking billboards for cigarette companies", that people can use public transport without suffocating, and that diners could eat without being exposed to the dangers of tobacco smoke. "We are grateful for the important contribution Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang has made in reducing, cancer, heart attacks, lung diseases and complications of pregnancy caused by smoking and tobacco use in our communities," the Council said.

"The Tobacco Products Control Act was passed before she took office but it was Dr Msimang who gave effect

to the Act and was responsible for ensuring it worked. The regulations governing smoking in public places and prohibiting the advertising of tobacco products were passed by her. During her term of office she continued to build on her initial achievements and added to them. A smoke-free Soccer World Cup in 2010, and the introduction of picture-based health warnings on tobacco packages are also part of her legacy. As a result more smokers will quit, more children will never start smoking and thousands of lives will be saved," NACAS said in a statement to mark Dr Tshabalala-Msimang's legacy.

The Medical Research Council said little more than ten years ago South Africa must have seemed a wonderful prospect for tobacco companies: "Thanks to great political courage, it has set a standard for all of Africa, and for the world."

It was fitting that the WHO had selected "*Gender and tobacco with an emphasis on marketing to women*" as the theme for the next World No-

Tobacco Day, scheduled for 31 May 2010. Controlling the epidemic of tobacco usage among women is vital to any comprehensive tobacco control strategy. World No- Tobacco Day 2010 will be designed to draw particular attention to the harmful effects of tobacco marketing on women and girls.

"Women comprise about 20% of the world's smokers, and the figure is bound to increase. Male rates of smoking have peaked, while female rates are on the rise. Women are a major target for the tobacco industry, which needs new users to replace the nearly half of current users who will die prematurely from tobacco-related diseases," the WHO said in a statement.

The Acts passed by Parliament in 2007 and 2008 make it illegal to smoke in a car where there is a child under 12. 🇿🇦

Flashback: Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang (front) at the Inauguration of President Nelson Mandela



Manto Tshabalala-Msimang

9 October 1940 – 16 December 2009



Political allies of former Health Minister Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang offered praise in the wake of her death in December and others offered condolences to her family. Her doctor Professor Jeff Wing announced that she died in the Wits University Donald Gordon Medical Centre CU from complications related to her first liver transplant in 2007, while in hospital for tests to see if her body would accept a second liver transplant. Her funeral was held in Pretoria on Tuesday 22 December 2009.

At the funeral President Jacob Zuma said, "Comrade Manto touched our lives in her various capacities, as a comrade, a dedicated medical doctor, a distinguished servant of the people, a gender activist and a humanitarian. We say with no fear of contradiction, that she remains an undisputed hero of our struggle, who dedicated her life

to the ideal of a free and democratic South Africa. Some of her fiercest critics cannot claim to have achieved even a quarter of what she has contributed to this country."

At her memorial service deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe said "we should just be careful not to make her out to be the person she was not. Her profound efforts and initiatives in the fight against the Aids pandemic far outstrip whatever foibles she had. She successfully coordinated the establishment of the South African National AIDS Council and the development of the National Strategic Plan against HIV/AIDS and STDs."

Among the mourners were Gauteng Health MEC Ms Qedani Mahlangu, the Presidency's Ms Jessie Duarte and the former Director General of the National

Intelligence Agency Billy Masetlha.

Most of her opponents avoided mentioning their disagreements while offering their condolences. The Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) wished her no ill, said TAC general secretary Vuyiseka Dubula. "We sent our condolences to her family and children."

The Democratic Alliance (DA) offered their condolences. "Like many politicians she was controversial," said DA leader Helen Zille said. "However, that doesn't detract from the sadness of her death," she said.

Independent Democrats leader Patricia de Lille said that Dr Tshabalala-Msimang would be remembered for her stance on HIV/Aids, "but that should not take away the good things she did in her capacity as Minister of Health." 

Biography

Tshabalala-Msimang was born in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal. She matriculated from Inanda Seminary, and went on to earn a BA degree from the University of Fort Hare in the Eastern Cape, graduating in 1961.

In 1962, shortly after the African National Congress was banned, Tshabalala-Msimang was one of a group of 27 young members of the organisation ordered to go into exile by the ANC leadership. She remained abroad for 28 years.

She went to the then Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, where she enrolled at the First Leningrad Medical Institute. She graduated from that institution with a medical degree in 1969.

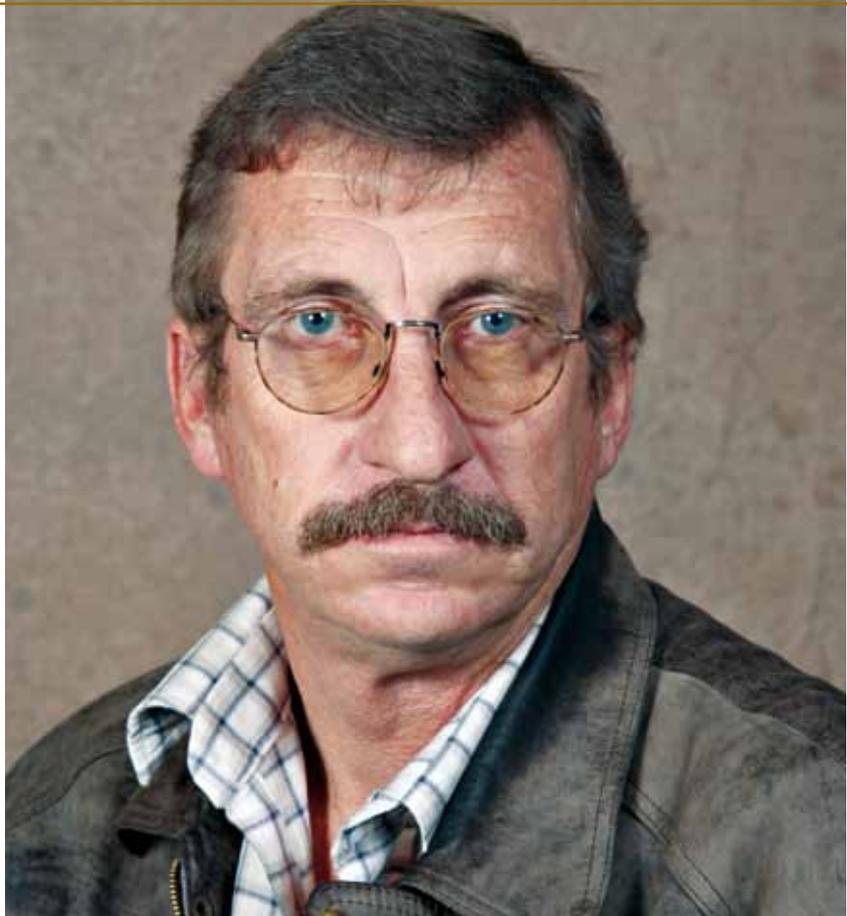
Tshabalala-Msimang later moved to Tanzania, where in 1972 she completed a diploma in obstetrics and gynaecology at the University of Dar es Salaam. One legacy of her time spent in these two countries was an ability to speak fluent Russian and Swahili.

Dr Tshabalala-Msimang went on to work in health services

in Tanzania and Botswana. She returned to South Africa in 1990, and at first worked in community health organisations in KwaZulu-Natal.

Dr Tshabalala-Msimang was first elected to Parliament in 1994 and served as chair of the National Assembly's health committee. In 1996 she was appointed deputy Minister of Justice, and Minister of Health on 17 June 1999.

She is survived by her husband, ANC veteran Mendi Msimang, and daughters, Zuki and Pulane.



Jacobus Schmidt

1 September 1960 - 23 November 2009

Parliament learned of the death of one of its members, Mr Cobus Schmidt, with great sadness and shock. The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Energy, Ms Elizabeth Thabethe said in a statement that Mr Schmidt had been with the Committee since the beginning of the fourth Parliament in 2009. As a member of the official Opposition, the Democratic Alliance, he played a major role in the Committee's work, always presenting his inputs in an informed and forthright manner: "It is clear to us that his passing will leave a big void in the Committee. Parliament has indeed lost one of its most committed members. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family, friends and the Democratic Alliance during this difficult time," Ms Thabethe said.

After serving as a municipal councillor for many years, Mr Schmidt (49) became a Democratic Alliance Member of Parliament following the 2009 elections. In his short stint in Parliament he served in the Portfolio Committee on Energy and was his party's deputy spokesperson on energy matters.

Born Jacobus Schmidt on 1 September 1960, in Malmesbury, Western Cape, Schmidt did compulsory military training before studying to become a teacher in

the former Orange Free State. He completed his training in 1984 and taught at the Technical High School at Welkom until 1990.

In 1990 he started his own business: he bought T-Shirts and did silk printing depicting different cultural and ethical slogans, and sold them at the coast during holiday seasons. He also had stands at most of the flea markets throughout South Africa. He did this for three years before returning to teaching.

In 1993, Mr Schmidt became a teacher at Concordia Secondary School in Theunissen. This school, the brainchild of former MP, Mr Piet Steyn, was started for underprivileged black children in a conservative white community with strong right wing ties. Along with other pioneers of Concordia School, Mr Schmidt received recognition for his teaching work in previously disadvantaged communities. In

1996 he was promoted to deputy principal of Reseamohetse Primary School, and with the help of the management team it became the best performing primary school in the Free State for four consecutive years.

His first encounter with active politics was when he assisted former National Party (NP) MP Dr Fred Nel with party administration at their local office and later in 1996 when he ran for office. Mr Schmidt joined the DA when it was formed in 2000 and he became a councillor in the Masilonyana Council. During this time he was a member of the Executive council and Chairperson of the Finance Committee. As caucus leader, he was known for his ability to interpret and apply municipal laws.

Mr Schmidt is survived by his wife Karen, their nine year old daughter Jani, and his parents Charles and Marie Schmidt.



Getting ready for the tour



All set for the match...



Dr Manie Van Dyk chats to Irish captain, Simon Coveney, MP



Ireland strike twice in rugby

Parliamentary Boks come unstuck

by Sakhile Mokoena

After scoring a 17-10 victory over a combined House of Commons and House of Lords team in England, the South African Parliamentary rugby team came unstuck a week later against the Irish Parliament side. The Irish parliamentary team won 10-7, on the same day that Ireland's national squad beat John Smith's South African team by 15 points to 10. *Sakhile Mokoena reports.*

After heckling each other during debates in the House, Members of Parliament have found something to bring them together. Every Tuesday and Thursday evenings they set aside their political agendas. Suits are swapped for sports gear, and a tough session of veteran rugby practice takes place at a "secret" venue. The rules of the game have been slightly amended



to allow for more senior players: those over the age of 50 cannot be tackled and they are allowed to run with the ball for a maximum distance of 20 metres before they must pass. The golden oldies wear yellow shorts for identification.

Another amendment in Parliament's rugby laws is that scrums are not contested; if you throw the ball it's yours, and the number eight may not spoil things by picking it up.

In the first match on Sunday 22 November against the Westminster side, South Africa won 17-10. The try scorers were parliamentary staff members Leon Mentor, Eugene Stevens and Nigel Favers, who first scored a try and then put over the conversion. Man of the match was Abie Sheldon, also a member of staff.

A week later in their second International against the Ireland parliamentary team, the Irish won 10 - 7. Leon Mentor scored his second try of the series, and Nigel Favers converted. Mentor was voted man of the match.

The parliamentary rugby club was revived in 1992 after the unbanning of South Africa's liberation organisations, when the Speaker of the UK Parliament invited the South African Parliament back into the fold. On their first tour the match ended in a 10-all draw.

In 1995 Parliament hosted the first Parliamentary Rugby World cup, which coincided with the IRB World Cup, which the Springboks won with the help of "Madiba magic". Unfortunately the Parliamentarians didn't emulate the Springboks; they were beaten by New Zealand in the final of the Parliamentary Rugby World cup.

They also came second in the 1999 World Cup, losing again to New Zealand. Because of preparations for the 2004 elections, South Africa missed the 2003 World Cup, which was won by Australia. When the South African side returned to the fray in 2007, they again came second to New Zealand.

Nevertheless, says Club Chairman and prop forward Mr Patrick Chauke, the local team remain the most respected team in the world of parliamentary rugby, after New Zealand. "It's not only about rugby but also building relations with other parliaments to promote good international relations and peace," said Mr Chauke.

Club captain and Secretary, Mr Gregory Schneemann says discussions are underway for a Tri-Nations tournament that will include South Africa, New Zealand and Australia. The team also plans to undertake tours locally to promote the development of rugby in the country's remote areas. "We want to encourage our provincial legislatures to start rugby clubs," he said. Mr. Schneemann, who is the team's star wing three quarter, says in the next five years Parliament's rugby club plans to extend its activities to other rugby nations on the African continent. "We want to play a role in the development of rugby; we will work with SA Rugby to promote the sport in Africa," he said.

During a dinner to bid the team farewell before the UK tour, President Jacob Zuma reminded the players about the strength of sport in uniting people: "The MPs play as one force here in the team, forgetting that they are from different benches, and this shows how much sport can socially unite people. People should know about the team, where and when you are playing," President Zuma said. 🇿🇦



Editor-in-Chief: Luzuko Jacobs

citizen's forum

Learning can be fun

The Crossword is focused on learning about the business of Parliament. The solution to the November Crossword and Sudoku will be published in the next edition of INSESSION.

Rules of crossword

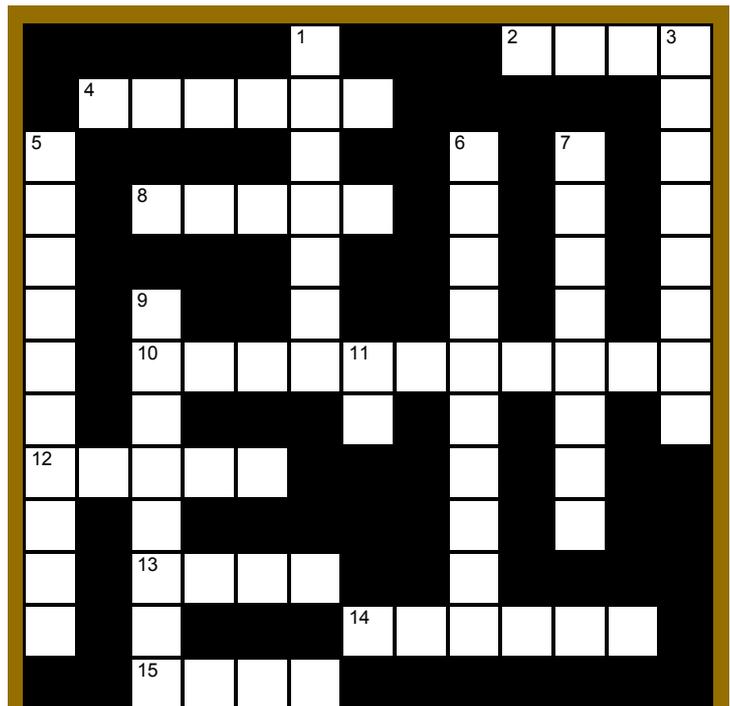
A crossword puzzle is a group of words that have been arranged across and down, so that each word crosses at least one other word at a common letter. The puzzle itself doesn't show the words, only the spaces where the words should be written. A list of numbered clues is matched to numbers placed in spaces on the puzzle where each word starts. You must find the correct word, in order for the clues to match up down and across, otherwise the puzzle does not work out.

Rules of Sudoku

Sudoku is played on a 9 by 9 board, divided into 3 by 3 cells. The solution of the puzzle is to place numbers on the board so that each row, column or cell contains each number, 1 to 9, exactly once, without moving the initial clues. The idea is to see where the numbers 1 to 9 will fit in. Each cell (or block) must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and each row vertically and horizontally must also contain 1 to 9.

Keep this INSESSION and check your answers in next month's issue.

							8	
7			1					
9				4			7	2
	2		3		9			
	7							3
		8	5				1	6
	9				6			2
		3		5	8			
							9	8



Across

- 2 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (Abbreviation) (4)
- 4 Government's plan indicating revenue and expenditure (6)
- 8 The Receiver of Revenue collects this from everyone (5)
- 10 The total amount spent by the State (11)
- 12 The financial year is from 1 April to 31 _____ of the following year (5)
- 13 Both the National Assembly and the _____ considers the Division of Revenue Bill before it becomes law. (Abbreviation) (4)
- 14 This framework indicates how much revenue will be available for spending (6)
- 15 State body that collects tax revenue (Abbreviation) (4)

Down

- 1 Another word for the State's total income (7)
- 3 The number of months it takes to prepare the budget (8)
- 5 Must discuss and pass the government's budget (10)
- 6 They organise public hearings and receive submissions (10)
- 7 The month in which the budget speech is made (8)
- 9 Citizens can express their views on the budget by attending public _____ (8)
- 11 The Minister of Finance tables the budget in this House (Abbreviation) (2)

See *How the Budget works* for clues (pg. 22)

citizen's forum

OBE necessary, but!

Sir - The whole Outcomes Based Education (OBE) thing is a great idea. The problem is the implementation. When dealing with adults I find one tends to think that because they have the knowledge it means they can perform the duty, which is not always the case. So the solution is that teachers need to be trained in order to develop the necessary capacity to deal with OBE, and understand its purpose. Some do not even know the meaning of the word outcomes and as a first step, a thorough skills audit will be needed. Finally, a culture of accountability needs to be instilled in teachers.

Simo-Sihle Nuwanda Mvinjelwa,
Cape Town

Resources and educators priority

Sir- Parliament should conduct oversight visits during the entire first school term, visiting schools in the deepest rural areas, and see with their own eyes what is

happening in our schools, regarding their learning resources, infrastructure, and educators. Furthermore primary schools in my village of Ga-Maja in Limpopo need to be visited by Parliament. In one incident at Kgampi secondary school the Department of Education asked educators to identify learners who were struggling to learn, that is, so-called "slow learners". How would this help? Another thing is computers, which none of the primary schools in my village have, not even to mention secondary schools. Resources and educators should be the country's first priority.

Nthabiseng Boya, Ga-Maja, Limpopo

Sir- I recently visited Parliament, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The MPs mentioned the Budget, and if you could explain how it works?

Ms Lindiwe Bontsi, Blackheath
Cape Town

Dear Ms Bontsi, Please see the article on the Budget in this InSession (p. 22).

- Editor

SABC Board named

President Jacob Zuma has informed the National Assembly of his appointments to the Board of the SABC, in terms of the applicable regulations. Non executive members of the Board with effect from 10 January 2010 are Mr Cedric Gina, Ms Phillippa Green, Mr Peter Harris, Ms Barbara Masekela, Mr Magano Mello, Mr David Niddrie, Ms Clare O'Neil and Ms Suzanne Vos. Mr Desmond Golding has also been appointed as a member of the Board, while continuing to serve as special adviser to the Minister of Public Works.

The deputy Chairperson is Ms Felleng Sekha and Dr Ben Ngubane is the Chairperson. The new group chief executive officer of the SABC Mr Solly Mokoetle was appointed recently.

solutions

to November Crossword and Sudoku

Crossword



Sudoku

6	9	1	4	5	2	8	7	3
2	3	5	7	8	6	9	4	1
4	7	8	9	3	1	2	5	6
9	6	7	3	2	4	1	8	5
5	8	4	6	1	9	7	3	2
3	1	2	5	7	8	4	6	9
1	2	6	8	4	3	5	9	7
8	5	9	1	6	7	3	2	4
7	4	3	2	9	5	6	1	8



OUR SOUTH AFRICA – THE SUN

The sun heals the divisions of the past, improves the quality of life of all South Africans, frees the potential of each person and builds a united and democratic South Africa, taking its rightful place as a sovereign state in the family of nations.



OUR PEOPLE – THE PROTEA LEAVES

Our people, building on the foundation of a democratic and open society, freely elect representatives, acting as a voice of the people and providing a national forum for public consideration of issues.



OUR PARLIAMENT – THE DRUM

The drum calls the people's Parliament, the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces, to consider national and provincial issues, ensuring government by the people under the Constitution.



OUR CONSTITUTION – THE BOOK

Our Constitution lays the foundation for a democratic and open society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights. It is the supreme law of our country, and ensures government by the people.

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