

in session



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SONA
2022



All set for
SONA
2022

Cape Town's City Hall will serve as the parliamentary precinct for the State of the Nation Address

For the first time in South Africa's democratic history, Cape Town's City Hall will serve as the venue can serve as the parliamentary precinct for the 2022 State of the Nation Address.

Receiving the City Hall from the Mayor of the City of Cape Town, Mr Geordin Hill-Lewis, the Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, said one of South Africa's greatest losses during the recent fire that swept through the Parliament Street precinct in January was

the complete destruction of the National Assembly (NA) Chamber, which usually hosts both NA and Joint sittings Parliament, including the State of the Nation Address.

This building was more than bricks and mortar, she said. Rather, it represented a distinguished national heritage, rich in political history that connected past, present and future "for a truly united, non-racial, non-sexist, prosperous and free South Africa".

"The fact that we are here today," she continued, "on this historic occasion of the hand-over of the Cape Town City Hall, is testament to the dynamism and vibrancy of our Constitution in so far as its foresight and safeguards are concerned. Equally significant and important is the matured leadership, unity of purpose and decisiveness displayed





by leaders here in making required and necessary interventions to provide solutions in times crisis.

“We once again extend our deepest gratitude to the Executive Mayor of this City, Councillor Hill-Lewis, for your leadership and solution-oriented intervention in providing this historic hall as the precincts of Parliament.”

Both Cape Town’s Mayor and the Premier of the Western Cape, Mr Alan Winde, offered Parliament the use of various provincial and city properties as alternative venues for Parliament’s work after the fire. Among all the venues offered, the City Hall was the most suitable facility that met all the parliamentary requirements regarding infrastructure and capacity. It was also an affordable option, as the Mayor made

them available to Parliament free of any hiring fee.

“This hall has rich history that links our past colonial, apartheid era and our present democratic dispensation,” Ms Mapisa-Nqakula pointed out. “The Hall, which was built in the early 1900 and has for years served as one of the colonial symbols of the Cape Colony, has now become our proud heritage and a symbol of our collective hopes, aspirations and freedom. It is a historic landmark of our journey as a people towards a democratic transition and a free society, and indeed one of the critical milestones of Madiba’s long walk to freedom.

“It is the first place where Tata Mandela addressed the nation and

the international community after his historic release from prison on 11 February 1990,” she went on to say. “The current President of the Republic, His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa, stood by his side. Four years later, in 1994, after the National Assembly elected him as the first President of our democracy, he returned to the same balcony here, to once again address his people.”

It will be the first time in the history of our constitutional democracy that the State of the Nation Address will take place in this manner. However, all the appropriate rules and laws will apply to this venue and in the same manner as in the Parliament



Street precinct. From the day of the hand-over, the hall now falls under the control of Parliament as per the definition of the precincts of Parliament provided for in Section 2 of the Powers, Privileges, and Immunities of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act.

In handing over the City Hall to Parliament's Presiding Officers, Mr Hill-Lewis said that this is a proud and historic moment during which the building will be transformed from one in which Capetonians gather to conduct local issues into a bigger, national site and a platform of democracy.

When Mr Mandela spoke to the people on 11 February 1990, this was a forerunner for the historic gatherings that the Hall has since played host to, including this landmark State of the Nation Address. He pledged Cape Town's full support for a successful and inclusive event.

Parliament's Presiding Officers and the Mayor signed a certificate of hand-over, only the second time this has happened in South Africa's history. The first hand-over occurred in 1905.





PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

North West Praise Singer for President at #SONA22



In keeping with the character of Parliament as an African Parliament that promotes the centuries-old cultural traditions of our nation, an Imbongi will usher the President into the Chamber with a poem.

The selected Imbongi for this State of the Nation Address is Mr Mosimanegape Jeremiah Jasone, and he will recite his poem in SeTswana. The 31-year-old Jason is from Manthe village, in Taung, in the North West Province.

Languages for poetry are considered rotationally to give all South African languages a fair and equal opportunity. The selection process involves recommendations made by the provincial legislatures, after which a determination is made.

Expressing his excitement before the event, Mr Jasone said he cannot wait to sing the praises of the President, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, before he delivers his address. "I feel humbled by being selected to praise Mr Ramaphosa, who is not just my president, but my wonderful hero. Mr Ramaphosa is rich in things to praise him on.

He will always be distinguished from his predecessors by exercising fearless leadership at the difficult time of the Covid-19 pandemic, which killed the economy and the people," said Mr Jasone.

Whenever President Ramaphosa appeared before the South African nation to address it on the government's plans for the economy and to save lives, Mr Jasone said, President Ramaphosa turned the despair into hope.

Mr Jasone was born in Manthe Village in Taung in the North West Province on 24 December 1990. He was educated at Moshosho Primary

School in Taung, Kebinelang Middle School and Walter Letsie High School.

His passion for poetry began in 2002, when he was 12 years old and still at Moshosho Primary School. He started performing praise singing in 2009 when he was at high school, and he earned recognition in the community for his work. His first career highlight came when he praised Chief Charles Nyoko Motihabane in Mante Village in Taung in 2011, during an arts and culture programme to mark 16 December, National Day of Reconciliation.

Mr Jeremia participated in reading competitions in Taung, Mafikeng and Klerksdorp, where he won two awards, and also took part in a talent contest on the English and SeTswana languages programme, streamed on SABC channel 2.

In May 2017, he participated in Mma Ausi at Pudimoe Community Hall and took part in a debate in Cape Town for Funda mzantsi Championships in a seTswana debate, book review and spelling competition. He was the poet and motivational speaker at Koonyaditse Oshebeng in June 2018.

In May 2021, Mr Jasone was nominated in the Mama Awards as the best poet. In June 2021 he performed a poem at Lonkgabeng Village where he got a Royalty Funds Award. He is involved in the Taung Imatlafatse Book Club and performs poetry at funerals, weddings, traditional schools and at many other ceremonies.



Mr Mosmanegape Jeremia Jasone, praise singer for SONA on 10 February in the Cape Town City Hall.



#SONA22

Citizens want the President to deal with crime, unemployment, housing, land tenure & education

South Africans from all walks of life and all corners of the country want President Cyril Ramaphosa to take bold and decisive steps to resolve issues around the high unemployment rate, crime, gender-based violence to land restoration when he delivers the 2022 State of the Nation Address (#Sona22).

Due to the recent fire at the Parliamentary Precinct, President

Ramaphosa will address the nation via his second hybrid SONA from the City of Cape Town's historic City Hall.

Some citizens want to hear how the government will deal with crime in their communities, while others are interested in the government's economic plans to create jobs and the provision of school infrastructure. They spoke to Insession writers, **Sibongile Maputi**, **Sureshinee Govender** and **Justice Molepo** about their expectations.



The principal of Sutherland High School, **Mrs van der Ross** proposes that a special focus be placed on

education and assisting schools to procure computers. This, she says, is because of the interest shown in computer science. She adds that schools can lay a solid foundation for future computer scientists. In particular she would love to see more computers at her school due to the interest shown by pupils in the subject.



Mr Jeremy Stuurman, employed by the National Research Foundation, wants the President to

urgently look at the issue of Gender Based Violence especially in small rural communities.

delayed especially after 26 years of existence of our Constitution.



Mr Forest Feni, wants Thembani Town in the Eastern Cape to benefit from development to get the

community out of poverty.

President Ramaphosa to “talk to Parliament to ensure that when it goes to communities it also print documents in brail in order to accommodate people who are living with disability, especially the blind. The President should also address the issue of insufficient number of special schools in the Free State. The province is made up of five districts with only two special schools.”



Mr Daniel Sidia hopes that the president will deal with the issue of unemployment and crime.

These evils, he says, affects the entire country. Mr Sidia also wants President Ramaphosa to effectively deal with the issue of crime and the provision of proper education facilities in rural communities.



Ms Nobayeni Dhlo, from Women Affected by Mining United in Action (WAMUA) and Mining Affected

Communities United in Action (MACUA), lives in a community that is highly affected by companies that mines in our communities without consulting or dealing with local community concerns. She says they “would like to request that the President make the Mine Charter law so that companies can be legally bound to implement it.”

She also wants the President to “speak to the Department of Small Business Development to support small businesses and co-operatives of people who are living with disabilities, because they depend mostly on their own businesses due to lack of job opportunities.”



Ms Maria, from an informal settlement in Sutherland, calls on the president to ensure the provision of

proper housing for all citizens.

She adds, that local communities “have a challenge of mine companies that use water and dispose it back into our river systems with chemicals. The President should also address the issue of blasting in the mines which causes dust and cracks on our houses.”



Ms Janet Pillai, a businesswoman, calls on the president to “tackle development opportunities

and investment in women owned businesses” in the covid economy. From the requests it is certain that South Africans are ready to assist the President in rebuilding the economy and country post-Covid19.



Ms Wilmien Wicomb, of the Legal Resource Centre, asks that the president shares his plan to deal with the

issue of securing tenure of land for locals who still have informal rights. The state, she adds, must produce legislation that protects tenure as this cannot be further



Ms Tebello Manoto, from the local Association for the blind, says she wants



At a recent meeting with the Committee on Rural and Land Affairs **King Dalimvula Matanzima**

called on the president to deal with upliftment of the Gwatyu community.

Q&A:

#SONA22



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Will different rules apply because SONA will take place in a new venue?

Parliament's rules will still be applicable in a new venue. The decision to host the SONA outside the National Assembly Chamber has been taken in compliance with the Joint Rules of Parliament that determine where a Joint Sitting may be held.

What are these Rules that provide for such a procedure?

The Joint Rules of Parliament prescribe the venue for the Joint Sitting of Parliament. The Rules also adequately provide for the procedures for the sitting and the conduct of Members of Parliament. Joint Rule 8 states that "Joint sittings are held in the Chamber of the Assembly".

Rule 2 of the Joint Rules provide for unforeseen matters. In terms of Rule 2(1), the Speaker and the Chairperson, working jointly, may give a ruling or make a rule regarding any matter for which the Joint Rules do not provide.

Therefore, a joint rule allows the Speaker and Chairperson to

determine a venue for the State of the Nation Address to be held outside the Assembly's usual Chamber. The Rule will remain in force until a decision of the Rules Committee is made on such a rule.

What does the law say about holding SONA in a new venue outside the Parliament Street parliamentary buildings?

Section 2 of the Powers, Privileges, and Immunities of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act defines the precincts of Parliament as any area of land and every building or part of a building under Parliament's control, including "the chambers in which the proceedings of the Houses are conducted and the galleries and lobbies of the chambers"; and include "all other parts of the buildings and committee rooms and other meeting places used for Parliament's business and in connection with the proceedings of Parliament, while so used".

Section 2 (2) provides that "where a House or committee convenes beyond the seat of Parliament, this Act applies as if the premises where the House or committee is

sitting were within the precincts of Parliament". Therefore, section 2 of the Act allows for any business of Parliament to be conducted elsewhere. Section 3 of the Act reinforces that the precinct's control vests with the Speaker and the Chairperson, irrespective of the venue.

Would it not be cheaper to hold a virtual SONA in light of the damage to the parliamentary precincts?

Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, Parliament enhanced its ICT technologies and started working in a hybrid manner, where some members are physically present and others connect through a virtual platform. Parliament will not deviate from this approach to its work.

Also, SONA is budgeted for annually and the City of Cape Town has offered the City Hall for free. Therefore, all costs to be incurred will be in line with the budget.

What is SONA?

The State of the Nation Address is called in terms of Section 42(5) of the Constitution by the President,



Mr Cyril Ramaphosa. It is a joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament and one of the rare occasions that bring together the three arms of the state under one roof.

SONA provides the President with an opportunity to speak to the nation on the state of South Africa, to reflect on a wide range of political, economic and social matters within domestic and global contexts. During SONA, the President also updates the nation on government commitments and outlines the government's programme of action for the new financial year.

Only one item is on the agenda for this special sitting, the President's State of the Nation Address. The sitting will be presided over jointly by the National Assembly Speaker and the National Council of Provinces Chairperson under the applicable joint rules of Parliament.

Will guests be allowed to attend SONA?

Only a limited number of guests will be allowed to attend SONA and all Covid-19 protocols will be adhered to.

2022

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

10 February, Cape Town

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENT



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

"FOLLOWING UP ON OUR COMMITMENTS TO THE PEOPLE,
MAKING YOUR FUTURE WORK BETTER"

PARLIAMENT.GOV.ZA



2022

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

10 February 2022, Cape Town



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

When and where does SONA take place?

SONA takes place in February annually and is scheduled for Thursday, 10 February 2022 at 19h00.



The National Assembly Chamber is used for the purpose of SONA. Due to the fire that destroyed the National Assembly building, Cape Town City Hall will host #SONA 2022.



It is hosted by both the Speaker of the National Assembly (NA) and Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP).



What is the State of the Nation Address (SONA)?

The State of the Nation Address (SONA) is one of the most important annual events in the parliamentary calendar.



The President delivers a speech focusing on the plans of government for the coming year.



This speech is delivered to Parliament (during a Joint Sitting of the National Assembly (NA) and the National Council of Provinces (NCOP)).



It is commonly known as "the Opening of Parliament".



All the three (3) Arms of the State, namely; the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary attend this annual event.



State of The Nation Address

The public's involvement and participation in SONA

During the State of the Nation Address, the public has an opportunity to be informed about government's planned priorities for the year ahead. The public can participate more meaningfully in SONA by:



Voicing their expectations of government by sending recommendations to the President in the lead-up to SONA using the #SONA2022 or our Parliament of RSA Facebook page



Watching SONA live on Parliament TV (DSTV408)



Requesting an invitation to virtually attend and observe the SONA debate which happens 2 days after SONA. Access can be arranged through the Public Relations (PR) office, publicrelations@parliament.gov.za

FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY
UNITY AND RECONCILIATION
OPENNESS AND PARTICIPATION



State of The Nation Address

SONA and Parliament's oversight function

One of Parliament's key functions is to monitor and oversee the actions of government.

-  The State of the Nation Address (SONA) forms part of Parliament's oversight (monitoring) function.
-  It does this monitoring to improve service delivery and to achieve a better quality of life for all living in South Africa.



What happens during SONA?

The President uses the occasion to deliver a speech as both Head of State and of Government to:

-  Set out the government's priorities for the coming year.
-  Highlight the achievements and challenges of the previous year.

Why is SONA important?

It grants government (Executive) an opportunity to account to Parliament and the South African public. It is also about celebrating our nation and nation-building.



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SONA and the Budget

-  Two weeks after SONA, the Minister of Finance introduces the Budget for the coming year.
-  The budget speech is based on government's priorities set out by the President in his speech.

For more information on how to get involved and participate in YOUR parliament please visit our website parliament.gov.za or request printed copies from info@parliament.gov.za



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2022
STATE OF THE NATION
ADDRESS
10 February, Cape Town



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ROAD CLOSURES

ROAD CLOSURES INCLUDE PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Parliament is hosting the State of the Nation Address by President Cyril Ramaphosa on Thursday, 10 February 2022 at 19:00. Due to this Ceremony of State, Cape Town motorists and pedestrians are advised of temporary road closures and parking restrictions in and around Parliament and the Cape Town City Hall from **1 – 16 February 2022** and full closure on 10 February 2022.

Road Closures for the period from 05:00 on 1 February 2022 to 23:59 on 16 February 2022

Closure of

- Corporation Street: between Darling and Longmarket Streets

Curb side fencing around the perimeter of the Cape Town City Hall

- Darling Street
- Corporation Street
- Parade Street
- Longmarket Street

Road Closures on the DAY (10 February 2022)

Control of traffic: 17:45 to 19:30

- Roeland Street: between Buitenkant and Brandweer Streets
- Buitenkant Street: between Roeland and Darling Streets

17:45 to 19:00 (Temporary Closure ±35 minutes)

- Klipper Road, Newlands: from Main Road (M4) to Newlands Avenue
- Princess Anne Avenue, Newlands: from Newlands Avenue to Union Avenue
- Newlands Avenue, Newlands: from Dean Street to Princess Anne Avenue

- Dean Street, Newlands, westbound: from Main Road (M4) to Newlands Avenue
- M3, Union Avenue, Rhodes Drive, Philip Kgosana Drive (De Waal Drive), Roeland Street, City-bound carriageway: from Newlands Avenue to city centre
- Woolsack Drive, Rondebosch, westbound: between Main Road (M4) and Rhodes Drive (M3)
- Anzio Road, Observatory: from Main Road (M4) to Philip Kgosana Drive (De Waal Drive) (M3)
- N2, Settlers Way City-bound carriageway: from Main Road (M4) to city centre
- Buitenkant Street: from Glynn to Strand Streets
- Darling Street, Sir Lowry Road: from Buitenkant to Tennant Streets (this will include a closure of Hanover Street and Tennant Street)

04:00 to 23:45

- Commercial Street: between Plein and Buitenkant Streets - becomes bi-directional
- Plein Street: between Roeland and Barrack Streets

Contingency closure in case of an emergency (08:00 to 23:45)

- Roads contained in the Parking Restrictions will be closed as required.

Road Closures for REHEARSAL from 17:00 – 23:59 (8-9 February 2022)

- Darling Street: between Plein and Buitenkant Streets
- Darling Street: between Buitenkant Street and the Castle of Good Hope (Traffic Control)

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

In the following areas from **midnight (23:59) on Wednesday, 9 February 2022 to 23:45 on Thursday, 10 February 2022**: to include **14, 15 & 16 February 2022**

- Parade, Cape Town
- Roeland Street: outgoing lane between Plein Street and 37 Plein Street (Bld. Next to Nieuwmeester parking)
- Buitenkant Street: from Glynn to Darling Streets (all 3 days 16:00 – 20:00 and on 9 Feb. from 23:59 to completion)
- Plein Street: between Roeland and Darling Streets
- Spin Street: between Parliament and Plein Streets
- Commercial Street: between Buitenkant and Plein Streets
- Parade Street: between Caledon and Darling Streets
- Corporation Street: between Darling and Caledon Streets
- Caledon Street: between Corporation and Parade Streets

Road Closures included parking restrictions

- Darling Street: between Plein and Buitenkant Streets
- Longmarket Street: between Plein and Buitenkant Streets
- Corporation Street: between Caledon and Darling Streets
- Parade Street: between Caledon and Darling Streets
- Plein Street: between Roeland and Barrack Streets
- Commercial Street: between Nieuwmeester Parking and Plein Street

Parliament apologises for any inconvenience caused.

#SONA2022
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PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

HAVE YOUR SAY

CALL FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS AND COMMENTS

THE ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL [B 1 – 2022]

The Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs (National Assembly) encourages interested individuals and organisations to submit written comments on **the Electoral Amendment Bill [B 1 -2022]**. **The Bill is accessible at: <https://www.parliament.gov.za/bill/2300397>**

Background: The Constitutional Court declared the Electoral Act 73 of 1998 unconstitutional to the extent that it requires that citizens may be elected to the National Assembly and Provincial Legislatures only through their membership of political parties. The Court directed Parliament to rectify the defective sections of the electoral laws within 24 months; that is from 10 June 2020 to 11 June 2022.

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the: Electoral Act, 1998, so as to insert certain definitions consequential to the expansion of this Act to include independent candidates as contesters to elections in the National Assembly and provincial legislatures; to provide that registered parties must submit a declaration confirming that all its candidates are registered to vote in the region or province where an election will take place; to provide for the nomination of independent candidates to contest elections in the National Assembly or provincial legislatures; to provide for the requirements and qualifications which must be met by persons who wish to be registered as independent candidates; to provide the procedure to follow for a non-compliant nomination of an independent candidate; to provide for the inspection of copies of lists of independent candidates and accompanying documents; to provide for objections to independent candidates; to provide for the inclusion of a list of independent candidates entitled to contest elections; to provide that independent candidates are bound by the Electoral Code of Conduct; to provide for the return of a deposit to independent candidates in certain circumstances; to amend Schedule 1; to substitute Schedule 1A; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

Written submissions and enquiries must be emailed to Mr Eddy Mathonsi, the Committee Secretary: electoralact1@parliament.gov.za or if not possible faxed to 086 655 0502 or mailed to Mr Mathonsi at P.O. Box 15, Cape Town and he can be reached on 083 709 8523. **Written submissions must reach Parliament by no later than 21 February 2022 at 16:00. In addition to written submissions, kindly indicate if you would like to make oral submissions**

Issued by Mr MS Chabane, MP, Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs.

**Parliament – Following up on our commitments to the People
– Making your future work better**



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.