



Social Media
LinkedIn | Facebook | TikTok
Twitter | Instagram | YouTube
@centralnewsza

FREE COPY

FREE STATE | NORTH WEST | GAUTENG

THURSDAY

06 FEBRUARY 2025 | WEEKLY

CENTRAL NEWS

www.centralnews.co.za | newsroom@centralnews.co.za | WhatsApp 081 495 5487

BEYOND THE NEWS

NEWS

Tshwane Metro Police impound Wanatu vehicles for operating without permits



STORY ON PAGE 4

SPORT

Mamelodi Sundowns sink SuperSport Utd 3-0 to maintain 6-point lead



STORY ON PAGE 8



Lamola Reaffirms Sovereignty Amid U.S. Criticism Over Land Reform Policies

In response to recent criticisms from U.S. officials regarding South Africa's land reform initiatives, International Relations and Cooperation Minister Ronald Lamola has reiterated the nation's commitment to its constitutional principles.

See story on page 2

CENTRAL  NEWS

Go beyond the headlines

Also available online at www.centralnews.co.za



CONTACT US

General Info
info@centralnews.co.za

Administration
admin@centralnews.co.za

Newsroom
newsroom@centralnews.co.za

Advertising
sales@centralnews.co.za

Lamola Reaffirms Sovereignty Amid U.S. Criticism Over Land Reform Policies

By Thabo Mosia

In response to recent criticisms from U.S. officials regarding South Africa's land reform initiatives, International Relations and Cooperation Minister Ronald Lamola has reiterated the nation's commitment to its constitutional principles. He emphasized that South Africa remains a sovereign and democratic country dedicated to human dignity, equality, and the rule of law.

Minister Lamola's statement comes on the heels of U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio's announcement that he will not attend the upcoming G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in Johannesburg, scheduled for 20-21 February. In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Rubio expressed his decision, stating: "South Africa is doing very bad things. Expropriating private property. Using G20 to promote 'solidarity,

equality, & sustainability.'" He further added, "My job is to advance America's national interests, not waste taxpayer money or coddle anti-Americanism."

This development follows U.S. President Donald Trump's recent threat to suspend aid to South Africa over its land expropriation policies. Trump alleged, without providing evidence, that South Africa is "confiscating" land and mistreating certain groups of people. In response, President Cyril Ramaphosa defended the country's land reform measures, clarifying that the Expropriation Act aims to ensure equitable access to land in line with the constitution and does not involve arbitrary land seizures.

The Expropriation Act, recently signed into law by President Ramaphosa, allows for the expropriation of land without compensation under specific circumstances deemed to be in the public interest. This legislation seeks to address historical injustices stemming from the

apartheid era, during which Black South Africans were systematically dispossessed of their land. Despite these intentions, the law has faced criticism both domestically and internationally.

In a bid to address concerns and clarify misconceptions, President Ramaphosa engaged in a discussion with Elon Musk, a prominent businessman and advisor to President Trump. The conversation aimed to counteract "disinformation" regarding South Africa's land reform policies. Musk has previously criticized the South African government's policies, alleging anti-white bias—a claim that has been widely disputed.

International Relations spokesperson Chrispin Phiri emphasized that there is no arbitrary dispossession of land or private property in South Africa. He drew parallels between South Africa's legislation and eminent domain laws present in other countries, including the United States. Phiri highlighted that principles such

as solidarity and sustainability are integral to South Africa's policies and are not indicative of an anti-American stance.

The South African government remains open to engaging with U.S. officials to provide clarity on its land reform policies and to address any concerns. Minister Lamola reiterated the country's commitment to non-racialism, non-sexism, and the rule of law, emphasizing that the constitution remains the guiding framework for all governmental actions.

As the G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting approaches, South Africa continues to advocate for multilateralism and equitable treatment for nations of the Global South. The government aims to use its G20 presidency to promote a more balanced global system that addresses the needs and concerns of all nations.

KZN Police Hunt Two Suspects After ANC Councillor Gunned Down



By Nkosana Khumalo

KwaZulu-Natal police are actively searching for two suspects involved in the fatal shooting of ANC ward councillor Phendukani Mabhida, 40, at his home in Sundumbili on Tuesday night. This incident follows a separate shooting in nearby Mandeni, where four men, including two off-duty police officers, were killed in a tavern on Monday.

Details of the Incident

According to KZN police spokesperson Colonel Robert Netshiunda, the tragic event occurred at Mabhida's residence in Mhambuma Reserve, Sundumbili. Two unidentified individuals arrived at his home and inquired about him. Upon his appearance, they allegedly opened fire, fatally wounding him. A 42-year-old female relative attempted to intervene and was also shot. Both victims were transported to a nearby hospital, where

Mabhida was declared dead upon arrival. The relative is currently receiving medical treatment. The motive behind the attack remains unknown.

ANC's Response

The African National Congress (ANC) in KwaZulu-Natal has condemned the killing, describing it as a "barbaric act." In an official statement, the party expressed deep condolences to the Mabhida family and called upon law enforcement agencies to apprehend the perpetrators. They emphasized the need for a thorough investigation to ensure that those responsible face justice.

Connection to Recent Violence in the Area

This incident occurred just a day after a mass shooting at a tavern in Mandeni, near Sundumbili, where four men, including two off-duty police officers, were killed. In that case, five suspects are being sought by the police. The motive for the tavern shooting is also currently unknown.

MONSA NATURALS

100% NATURAL

R100

Hair Growth Oil

Heals & Restores hairlines, bald patches, activates hair growth, anti-itch & anti dandruff, reduces hair fall

R80

Rosewater Leave-in Spray

For hydration and moisture for hair and scalp

R90

Clarifying Shampoo

Gentle cleanser
Removes dirt & product build up
Leaves your hair clean & soft

R90

Detangling Conditioner

Conditions & Detangles
Great slip
Perfect moisture sealant

R70

Whipped Shea Butter

Unrefined Raw Shea Butter, whipped and blended in with other oils. For Hair & skin

R60

Moisturizing Cream

Reduces breakage of hair and also nourishes the hair & provides hydration and softness

NATIONWIDE DELIVERY:
COURIER GUY R100
2-3DAYS OR
PEP PAXI R60 7-9DAYS

MAINTAIN-RESTORE-REVITALISE
Bald edges, receding hairline, extremely dry hair, breakage, thin hair, scalp issues we are here for a solution for your hair needs.
For All Hair Types

WHATSAPP 07804-90925

www.monsanaturals.co.za

@monsanaturals

Rea Vaya Bus Services Resume After Fatal Attacks on Drivers in Soweto



By Karabo Marifi

Rea Vaya bus services have resumed operations on Thursday morning,

following a three-day suspension prompted by the tragic deaths of two bus drivers in Soweto earlier this week. The City of Johannesburg halted all bus

services in response to these incidents, leaving many commuters stranded.

Details of the Incidents

The first incident occurred in Protea Glen, where a bus driver was fatally shot at a traffic light along Wild Chestnut Street. In the second incident, another driver was shot and killed in Mapetla. The motives behind these attacks remain unclear, but authorities are investigating potential links to ongoing disputes with taxi operators.

Security Measures Implemented

In response to the attacks, the City of Johannesburg's Department of Transport received a plan from the safety and security forum detailing the escort of Rea Vaya bus drivers and passengers. Increased visibility of metro police has been observed at main stations in Soweto to guard operations from depots to final destinations and back. The city is urging key transport players to support efforts to curb violence and attacks on bus rapid transit infrastructure that cause service suspensions.

Impact on Commuters

The suspension of services left many commuters in Johannesburg searching for alternative transport options. The resumption of services is expected to alleviate the inconvenience faced by daily passengers who rely on Rea Vaya for their transportation needs.

Official Responses

Johannesburg Transport MMC Kenny Kunene expressed shock and outrage at the killings, describing them as "assassinations." He emphasized the severity of the attacks and the need for a strong governmental response to ensure the safety of public transport operators and passengers.

Ongoing Investigations

Law enforcement agencies are actively investigating the incidents. While the exact motives remain undetermined, there is speculation about possible connections to disputes within the transportation sector. Authorities are committed to bringing the perpetrators to justice and ensuring the safety of public transportation services.

City of Cape Town Intensifies Efforts Against Cable Theft, Achieving Over 70 Arrests in Six Months

By Lerato Mpembe

The City of Cape Town's law enforcement officers have arrested more than 70 individuals for cable theft over the past six months. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to combat the persistent issue of metal theft that disrupts critical services and poses safety risks to residents. Strategic Operations and Increased Patrols The City's Metal Theft Unit has been proactive, conducting nearly 2,000 visits to known hotspots during this period to deter potential thieves. These operations have been instrumental in identifying

and apprehending suspects involved in the theft and vandalism of essential infrastructure.

Integration of Advanced Technology Mayoral Committee Member for Safety and Security, JP Smith, highlighted the role of technology in these successful operations. He stated, "We continue to use everything at our disposal to crack down on metal theft. This is another area where our ongoing investment into technology is being put to good use, and I imagine the return on investment will increase as we expand our use of these tools and all that they have to offer."




STATE of the NATION
 ADDRESS
A nation that works for all
THURSDAY | 6 FEBRUARY 2025 | 19:00
#SONA2025


stateofthenation.gov.za | presidency.gov.za | gov.za



By Lerato Mpembe

Tshwane Metro Police Department (TMPD) has impounded three vehicles belonging to Wanatu, an Afrikaans-focused e-hailing service, for operating without the necessary municipal permits. This enforcement action follows growing scrutiny over the company's legal compliance, operating licences, and its Afrikaans-only hiring policy.

The impoundments occurred on Wednesday, during routine traffic operations in Centurion, where the company has been operating since launching in October 2024. TMPD spokesperson Isaac Mahamba stated that the impoundments were not specifically targeted at Wanatu but were part of broader law enforcement efforts. "We spotted these ones; we did not target Wanatu vehicles," Mahamba said.

The impounded vehicles will be released upon payment of the required pound fees. However, they will not be allowed to operate until valid municipal permits are obtained.

Background: Wanatu's Controversial Entry into the E-Hailing Market

Wanatu markets itself as an Afrikaans-centric e-hailing service, focusing on commuters who prefer Afrikaans-speaking drivers. The company's hiring policy—which allegedly only employs Afrikaans-speaking drivers—has ignited widespread debate, with some critics arguing that it may violate South African labour laws.

The company, which operates primarily in Centurion and Pretoria, offers an alternative to established e-hailing services like Uber, Bolt, and inDrive. However, its unique branding and language requirements have led to accusations of exclusionary hiring practices.

Legal experts have weighed in, suggesting that while businesses can have operational language preferences, outright exclusion of applicants based on language could be deemed discriminatory.

How the Wanatu Impoundment Controversy Began

Tshwane Metro Police Impound Wanatu Vehicles for Operating Without Permits

The impoundment followed a social media debate after Build One SA (BOSA)'s Ayanda Allie raised questions about Wanatu's operational legality. In a viral video posted on X (formerly Twitter), Allie questioned whether Wanatu had the necessary operating permits, given that other e-hailing services, such as Uber, Bolt, and inDrive, frequently face vehicle impoundments for non-compliance.

She further pointed out that municipal authorities had claimed that the e-hailing sector was oversaturated, which is why many drivers were struggling to obtain permits. "If that is the case, then why is Wanatu, which was launched in October, permitted to not only operate but to do so without permits?" Allie asked.

Tshwane Mayor Nasiphi Moya later confirmed the impoundments on social media, stating: "We do not discriminate when enforcing bylaws in Tshwane."

City of Tshwane's Position on E-Hailing Compliance

TMPD officials have stated that their enforcement efforts apply equally across all e-hailing services and that they do not target specific companies. However, this has not stopped concerns from being raised about how quickly Wanatu was able to establish its operations, seemingly without facing the same regulatory hurdles as other e-hailing companies.

TMPD Spokesperson's Statement
TMPD spokesperson Isaac Mahamba said, "These vehicles were found operating without the required operating licences. We enforce the law without bias. The enforcement against Wanatu is no different from how we deal with Uber, Bolt, or any other e-hailing operator that is non-compliant."

Roads and Transport MMC's Response
Roads and Transport MMC Tlangi Mogale also addressed the issue, revealing that



officials only became aware of Wanatu's operations last week. Following this, authorities immediately impounded a Wanatu vehicle for non-compliance.

Mogale further stated that Wanatu's legal representative attempted to have the vehicle released, but was unsuccessful due to the lack of an operating licence.

"He was referred to the provincial Transport Operating Licensing Administrative Board in Tshwane and was told they should apply for a learner/scholar transport operating licence since they also transport schoolchildren in Centurion," said Mogale.

Wanatu's Response: Service Temporarily Suspended

Following the impoundments, Wanatu sent an SMS to all registered users, announcing a temporary suspension of its service. The company also signalled its intention to challenge the impoundments in court.

The SMS read:

"Wanatu service is temporarily suspended

due to the illegal actions of the TMPD by illegally impounding our vehicles and intimidation of our drivers. We're going to court!"

Wanatu CEO Judith van der Walt has yet to make an official statement but has promised to address the matter in the coming days.

Human Rights Commission to Investigate Wanatu's Hiring Policy

In addition to regulatory issues, the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) is investigating Wanatu's hiring policy after complaints that the company only hires Afrikaans-speaking drivers.

The commission is probing whether the hiring policy violates South African labour and equality laws, as South Africa's Constitution protects citizens from discrimination based on language or ethnicity.

According to Mogale, "We have said that it is unacceptable for any company to recruit only Afrikaans-speaking drivers in a diverse country like South Africa."

Magwenya Dismisses Claims That SANDF Is in DRC to Protect Ramaphosa's Mining Interests



By Thobeka Makume

Presidency spokesperson Vincent Magwenya has dismissed claims that South African troops are in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to protect President Cyril Ramaphosa's mining interests. He emphasised that South African National Defence Force (SANDF) deployments in the DRC are part of long-standing peacekeeping missions aimed at stabilising the region.

Addressing the media in Parliament on Wednesday, Magwenya responded to allegations from the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) and a spokesperson for Rwandan President Paul Kagame. Both parties suggested that the SANDF's presence in the DRC serves to safeguard the business interests of Ramaphosa and his associates. Magwenya refuted these claims, stating, "To reduce such a long commitment to the attainment of peace in the DRC, on our continent, to the protection

of mining interests is completely devoid of any truth."

He further highlighted South Africa's extensive history of peacekeeping on the continent, noting, "We've been involved in more than 20 peacekeeping initiatives on the continent, the latest being Mozambique."

Background of Allegations

The controversy arose when EFF Member of Parliament Natasha Ntlangwini alleged that the SANDF's deployment in the DRC was primarily to protect the mining interests of Ramaphosa's associates. Similarly, Yolande Makolo, spokesperson for President Kagame, claimed that South African troops were in the DRC to safeguard Ramaphosa's personal business interests.

Makolo's comments intensified the debate, leading to a public exchange between the South African and Rwandan administrations. In response, Magwenya emphasised that such assertions lack understanding of South Africa's role in regional stability and are not based on evidence.

South Africa's Peacekeeping Role

South Africa has been a significant contributor to peacekeeping missions across Africa since the late 1990s. The SANDF's involvement in the DRC began through contributions to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), aiming to bring stability to a region plagued by conflict.

Over the years, South African troops have played crucial roles in various operations, including efforts to neutralise armed rebel

groups and protect civilians. The country's commitment to peacekeeping is rooted in its foreign policy principles, which emphasise the promotion of peace, security, and stability on the African continent.

Official Responses to Allegations

Defence Minister Angie Motshekga also addressed the claims, labelling them as absurd. She pointed out that the peacekeeping mission in the DRC is sanctioned by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and supported by the African Union (AU) and the United Nations (UN). Motshekga stated, "It would really shake to the core that heads of state of 15 countries meet... and agreed to the mission. So, it means all of the 15... agreed to go and support the interests of South African business. It can't be true."

Furthermore, ANC Secretary-General Fikile Mbalula dismissed speculation that the SANDF was deployed to the DRC to protect private interests, affirming that the deployment aligns with South Africa's commitment to regional peace and security.

International Relations and Future Engagements

In light of the allegations, Magwenya did not rule out the possibility of a meeting between President Ramaphosa and President Kagame. Such a meeting could occur at upcoming regional gatherings, including a Southern African Development Community (SADC) summit in Tanzania or an African Union (AU) assembly later in 2025. The aim would be to address any misunderstandings and reinforce collaborative efforts towards regional stability.

State of the Nation Address 2025: What to Expect from President Ramaphosa



By Natalie Naidoo

President Cyril Ramaphosa will deliver the State of the Nation Address (SONA) 2025 on Thursday, 6 February 2025, at 19:00, marking a pivotal moment in South Africa's political and economic landscape. The address, set to be delivered from the Cape Town City Hall, will outline government priorities for the year ahead, tackling key issues such as economic growth, job creation, service delivery, and governance under the Government of National Unity (GNU).

The 2025 SONA will be the first under the seventh administration's GNU, following the historic 29 May 2024 elections. It will provide a roadmap for the country's progress, reflecting on challenges faced and achievements made in the past year. South Africans will tune in with great anticipation, eager to hear the President's plans to address the rising cost of living, unemployment, and infrastructure challenges.

South Africa at 30: Reflecting on Three Decades of Democracy

This year's SONA is significant as South Africa commemorates 30 years of democracy. Since the dawn of democratic rule in 1994, the country has made significant strides in education, healthcare, infrastructure development, and economic empowerment. However, major challenges persist, including high unemployment, economic inequality, energy security, and social unrest.

President Ramaphosa is expected to reflect on the progress made while acknowledging areas where government interventions have fallen short. In his New Year's Eve address, he emphasized the need for urgency and purpose in tackling poverty, inequality, and unemployment, urging South Africans to look ahead with hope and resilience.

Economic Outlook and Reforms

The South African economy has faced slow growth, high unemployment, and fiscal constraints in recent years. However, signs of recovery emerged in 2024, with the country achieving its first primary budget surplus in 15 years.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), South Africa's GDP growth is expected to accelerate from an estimated 0.8% in 2024 to 1.5% in 2025, driven by improved electricity generation, monetary policy easing, and a resurgence in investor and consumer confidence post-elections.

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) recently reduced its main lending rate to 7.50%, signaling an effort to boost economic activity. However, private sector activity remains sluggish, with the S&P Global South Africa Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) declining to 47.4 in January 2025, reflecting contractions in new orders and output.

While government reforms in banking, infrastructure, and industrialization are welcomed, the rising public debt and slow pace of economic transformation remain concerns. The 2025 SONA is expected to focus on strategies to accelerate economic growth, attract foreign direct investment, and boost local production.

G20 Presidency: A Historic Moment for South Africa

A key highlight of the 2025 SONA will be South Africa's role as the President of the Group of 20 (G20), having assumed the leadership on 1 December 2024 under the theme "Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability".

This historic G20 Summit, scheduled for November 2025, will be the first ever hosted on African soil. South Africa's presidency follows Brazil's leadership in 2024 and aligns with the admission of the African Union (AU) as a permanent member of the G20.

President Ramaphosa is expected to outline South Africa's global economic agenda, focusing on financial stability, sustainable development, and multilateral cooperation. The hosting of the G20 Summit is expected to boost South Africa's international profile and attract investment to drive economic recovery.

Legislative Priorities: Expropriation Bill and Employment Equity

Over the past year, government has passed key legislation aimed at advancing economic and social transformation:

- **Expropriation Bill:** Signed into law in January 2025, this legislation allows for land expropriation in the public interest, aligning with Section 25 of the Constitution. While the law has sparked controversy internationally, with the United States raising concerns, South Africa insists it is not a confiscation tool but a mechanism to promote equitable land reform.
- **Employment Equity Amendment Act:** Came into effect on 1 January 2025, easing regulatory burdens on small businesses to promote job creation and economic participation.
- **Basic Education Laws Amendment**

(BELA) Act: Expected to reform South Africa's education system, ensuring more equitable access to learning resources.

These legislative measures are expected to feature prominently in the 2025 SONA, as government outlines strategies for implementation and impact assessment.

Infrastructure Development and Energy Security

The stabilization of the electricity grid has been a major focus for Eskom and government stakeholders. November 2024 marked the longest period of uninterrupted power supply in five years, with over 240 consecutive days without load shedding.

This improvement is attributed to:

- The Energy Action Plan (2022)
- Eskom's Generation Recovery Plan
- Increased private sector participation in renewable energy
- Improved coal fleet maintenance and procurement efficiency

However, logistics bottlenecks in freight, rail, and port operations remain a challenge, impacting export capacity and trade efficiency. The President is expected to announce further reforms to Transnet and Eskom, ensuring continued stability in South Africa's infrastructure sector.

Social Development and Employment

Despite improvements, unemployment remains a significant issue, particularly among the youth. Projections indicate the unemployment rate could rise to 33.2% in 2025 as job creation lags behind labor force growth.

Key government interventions include:

- Expansion of the Public Employment Programme
- Increased funding for entrepreneurship and SME development
- Strengthening of TVET and skills development programmes
- Enhanced youth employment incentives and learnerships

SONA 2025 is expected to introduce

additional measures to boost employment and social support mechanisms.

Security and Crime Reduction Efforts

The South African Police Service (SAPS) has ramped up efforts to combat crime, deploying over 20,000 new constables across the country. Initiatives such as Operation Shanela and Operation Vala Umgodi have yielded results, with a 5.1% decrease in serious crimes between July-September 2024.

The 2025 SONA will highlight further strategies to address crime hotspots, gender-based violence, and illegal mining activities.

Jacob Zuma's SONA Attendance: Political Tensions Rise

In a controversial move, former President Jacob Zuma has been invited to attend SONA 2025 as a leader of the MK Party, a newly formed political movement. The Speaker of the NCOP confirmed his attendance, signaling rising political tensions within the GNU.

Zuma's presence at SONA could spark debate over his ongoing legal battles and influence within opposition circles. His break from the ANC to establish the MK Party remains one of the most significant political shifts in post-apartheid South Africa.

The EFF, DA, and other opposition parties are expected to react strongly to his attendance, raising concerns over accountability, governance stability, and the GNU's ability to function cohesively.

Public Expectations and the Road Ahead As South Africans tune in for the 2025 SONA, expectations are high for bold, decisive leadership. The nation is looking for clear solutions to pressing challenges, including:

- Job creation and economic growth
- Electricity and infrastructure stability
- Crime reduction and community safety
- Social development and youth empowerment
- Political stability and governance transparency

President Ramaphosa faces the monumental task of balancing competing interests within the GNU, while ensuring policy implementation aligns with public needs.



EMFULENI
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Vaal River City, the Cradle of Human Rights

INVITATION TO BID

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BID FOR REQUIREMENTS OF THE EMFULENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AS OUTLINED BELOW:

Bid Number	Bid Description	Compulsory Briefing Session Date & Time	Bid Document	Closing Date	Contact Person
6/1/2025/51	Appointment of a Service Provider for the Provision of Caucus Lekgotla for Emfuleni Local Municipality.	Not Applicable All enquires to be directed via email and Telephone as provided	R250.00 (Non-refundable)	19 February 2025 at 10:00am	Ms. Neliswa Tsutsu neliswaT@emfuleni.gov.za 087 562 0070 / 083 436 2460
6/1/2025/52	Request for Appointment of a Panel of Service Providers to Conduct Indigent/Pauper Burial Services to ELM on an as when required basis for a period of thirty-six (36) months.	Not Applicable All enquires to be directed via email and Telephone as provided	R250.00 (Non-refundable)	20 February 2025 at 10:00am	Me. Xoli Madiba / Mr. Xolani Ngobese Xolim@emfuleni.gov.za XolaniN@emfuleni.gov.za 076 647 9676 / 082 863 1308

Bidders are required to comply with the minimum requirements as stipulated in the tender document.

Collection of bid documents: Bid documents may be purchased during office hours between 08h15 to 15h15 on Monday to Friday excluding public holidays at Emfuleni Local Municipality Offices, Vanderbijlpark, Cnr Klasie Havenga Street & Frikkie Meyer Boulevard, Ground floor.

Availability of bid documents: Bid documents will be available from 06 February 2025 at 10:00am, until the closing date at a cost of R250.00 which is non-refundable (payable in cash or bank guaranteed cheque) before collection of the bid document.

Returning of bid: Sealed marked bids must be placed in the Bid Box (first floor) at the Municipal Offices, Vanderbijlpark, Cnr Klasie Havenga Street & Frikkie Meyer Boulevard, not later than 10h00 on the closing date where after it will be opened in public.

Evaluation and adjudication of bid: bids will be evaluated and adjudicated in terms of *Emfuleni Local Municipality Supply Chain Management Policy and Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act No 5 of 2000. The 80/20 in preferential procurement points system as outlined in the bid document will apply.*

Mr. A. Ntuli Pr Tech Eng, MSAICE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER



CENTRAL NEWS

opinion

BY DR SEFOKO RAMOSHABA

THE CURSE OF A BLACK CHILD'S FUTURE: MALIGN UNIVERSITIES

The cry by Vaal University of Technology (VUT) SRC President is a cry for help during August 2024 Parliamentary Portfolio committee briefing on Higher Education, is a cry from a Black child in South Africa's historical universities. Most historically Black universities or current black dominated universities are badly run. Some Vice Chancellors of University council are poor leaders or there is no willingness to manage our educational assets properly. Its systems these management structures cannot manage even a village post office. How can a university function properly when the university cannot manage to finish just a construction or maintenance of university infrastructure. A remarkably simple task that requires a proper procurement system. Universities does not have enough resources while students, parents, sponsors, and the government provide these universities with subsidies. Some of these universities cannot provide basic learning and teaching assets, let alone research facilities. Some universities (like VUT) have been under constant Government led Administration because they are unable to have qualified and suitable leadership. Some universities are crippled by the political meddling buy outside political figures without an interest in education. It baffles one's mind because historically white universities do not have the same challenges of leadership or instability like the historical Black universities. Ooh, let us blame apartheid and the white man's damage of the education of the Black child and its collapse more than 30 years of democracy and freedom. Or does it make sense that

our current government is failing, local government is dead, and the delivery of services has collapsed like many Black universities. Some universities just like some government departments and or local municipalities are just criminal enterprises for figures who do not have an interest in the future of our country and a lack child. How many universities have been subjected to government led leadership interventions. Why government leadership interventions do not work or seems to be a total failure as universities relapses after some successful interventions. Can government be a correct arbiter in a university leadership crisis while our government is under a crisis of leadership. NSFAS is an example of the failures by the government and or the Department of Higher Education. NSFAS fails to pay students their well-deserved stipends, fails to give students their bursary applications responses, NSFAS has the same leadership crisis that most historically Black universities are facing, allegation of a criminal enterprise beset by ill-advised political meddling and or crony capitalism. One big question: Can a sick patient treat another sick patient? The answer is a big NO. It clearly indicates that the failure of universities lies squarely on our political leadership's failure which dominates the hiring of university management, sometimes along the political party lines. Some Vice-Chancellors never deserved to sit on top of universities leadership positions, at all. It happens in South Africa, where the future of our children is slaughtered at the alter like "THE LUST FOR JESUS CHRIST BLOOD".

Our students and their student leaders are genuinely provoked by the failure of the Department of Higher Education, NSFAS and poor university leadership and mismanagement. Normally, students in these universities are called thugs, and or hooligans while the students are left with no choice because they are being frustrated day in and day out. They sleep on the floors, inside dilapidated buildings, unsafe and unhygienic buildings, corruption enterprises destroy their future and their right to education. Their bright future is being butchered in front of them, wily nilly. Just Like the Bososa Gate, Kandla Gate and the GUPTA's state capture. Most students turn aggressive and turns into aggressive violent protests because someone is blocking their right to education just in front of their eyes. Every beginning of an academic year students suffers at the hands of ineffective and inefficient NSFAS and or badly prepared universities. They accept a child from previously disadvantage community but not ready to service the child. The students are their own at these universities and they are left with no choice, their voices cannot be heard by NSFAS and university management. Most historical universities management are agent provocateurs, they provoke students to turn into violent and aggressive protests. Justly and justifiably so. Frustration-Aggressive Actions are the results of poor leadership by NSFAS and universities' management. THE COUNTRIES' LEADERSHIP SILENCE AND FAILURES PROVOKE THE STUDENTS AND IT WON'T BE LONG, WE WILL BACK TO A FEESMUSTFALL LIKE REVOLUTION

WE ARE NOT READY MANAGE. ABOUT DR SEFOKO RAMOSHABA I have more than 30 years of work experience of which 17 years has been at management positions at various South African Universities, namely: Vaal Triangle University (currently Vaal University of Technology, Witwatersrand Technikon (Currently University of Johannesburg) and Nelson Mandela University. The positions include Manager and later HOD: Student Ethics and Judicial Services at the University of Johannesburg and HOD: Student Life and Development at Nelson Mandela University. My job experience stretchers from Student Discipline, Student Ethics, Student Judicial Services, Student Development, Arts and Culture, Transformation, Ethics, Transformation, Social Justice, Community Engagement and Outreach Projects, Transformative Student Life and Development (Integrating academic qualifications with Community Engagement as part of Re-Igniting Student Life and Development. My academic qualifications are diverse form BA (English, Geography, Education and General Linguistics), Higher Education Diploma (Teaching Diploma), BA Hours in Geography, Diploma in Criminal Justice and Forensic Auditing, ND: Law, BA Honours in Public Management and Development, MA in Public Management and Development, PHD in Public Management and Development @ UJ, LEAP (Leadership Enhancement Management Program) @ NMU). I have published more than eight times in my academic career. I am the founder of Social Justice and Leadership Institute @ www.sjli.co.za. A social justice proponent aiming at the Legacy of People and Community Empowerment and ardent believer in community engagement as a form of civic activism. I am also a Faculty Member of the WorldWide Institute and Leadership Development (WILD).

Cape Herb and Spice Recalls Products Due to Potential Plastic Contamination

By Karabo Marifi

The National Consumer Commission (NCC) has announced that Cape Herb and Spice is recalling several products manufactured between September 2023 and May 2024. The affected items include:

- Chilli & Garlic Seasoning
- Black Peppercorns
- Pink Salt
- Salt & Pepper
- Sea Salt
- Seasoned Salt
- Sweet & Smokey BBQ

The recall was initiated after reports indicated that the grinder mechanism in these products may break during use, potentially releasing hard plastic fragments into the spices. The NCC advises consumers to immediately stop using these products and return them to the supplier

or point of purchase for a full refund. Acting Commissioner Hardin Ratshisusu emphasized the importance of suppliers informing consumers about the recall and providing necessary redress. Similar recalls have been reported internationally. In Australia, Rex Imports Australia Pty Ltd recalled various Cape Herb and Spice Grinders due to concerns of plastic contamination. The affected products were sold in independent retailers, including IGA stores across multiple states. Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) warned that consuming these products could cause injury and advised customers to return them for a full refund. In New Zealand, specific batches of Cape Herb & Spice brand Himalayan Pink Salt, Seasoned Salt, Salt & Pepper, and Sweet & Smokey BBQ were recalled due to the possible presence of plastic pieces.



Consumers were advised not to consume the affected products and to return them to retailers for a full refund. In the United Kingdom, Terry Smyth Ltd extended its recall of various Cape Herb and Spice products to include additional best-before dates, citing the potential presence of plastic pieces. The Food Standards Agency (FSA) issued a notice advising consumers to return the products to the store of purchase for a full

refund. The NCC urges all consumers in possession of the affected Cape Herb and Spice products to cease usage immediately and return them for a refund. Consumers with health concerns after using these products should seek medical advice promptly. For more information, consumers can contact the NCC or visit the official Cape Herb and Spice website.



sports

CONTACT US

General Info
info@centralnews.co.za

Administration
admin@centralnews.co.za

Newsroom
newsroom@centralnews.co.za

Advertising
sales@centralnews.co.za

Mamelodi Sundowns Sink SuperSport United 3-0 to Maintain Six-Point Lead

By Sello Masilo

Mamelodi Sundowns asserted their dominance in the Tshwane Derby with a commanding 3-0 victory over SuperSport United at the Lucas Moripe Stadium on Wednesday evening, 5 February 2025. Goals from Jayden Adams and a brace by Tashreeq Matthews ensured the Brazilians maintained their six-point lead at the summit of the Betway Premiership standings. This win sets the stage for a highly anticipated clash against second-placed Orlando Pirates in the upcoming weekend.

Match Overview

The encounter began with Sundowns displaying their attacking intent early on. In the 7th minute, Lucas Ribeiro unleashed a powerful shot that was expertly tipped onto the post by SuperSport's goalkeeper, Thakasani Mbanjwa. Marcelo Allende attempted to capitalise on the rebound but volleyed over the crossbar.

The breakthrough came in the 11th minute when Zuko Mdunyelwa delivered a precise low cross from the right flank, finding Jayden Adams. Adams showcased composure, slotting the ball home to register his inaugural goal in Sundowns colours.

Sundowns continued to press, and in the 19th minute, Peter Shalulile's effort from outside the box beat Mbanjwa but struck the right-hand post, denying them a second goal.

SuperSport United struggled to mount significant offensive threats. Their closest opportunity arose in the 29th minute when Gape Moralo's well-struck free-kick beat Ronwen Williams but rebounded off the woodwork, leaving the home side frustrated.

Just before the halftime whistle, in the 44th minute, Tashreeq Matthews capitalised on a defensive lapse by Ime Okon. Matthews seized the opportunity, squeezing a left-footed shot past Mbanjwa to double Sundowns' advantage heading into the break.

Second Half Developments

SuperSport's coaching staff made tactical adjustments at the start of the second half, introducing Mandlenkosi Nkosi and Neo Rapoo to rejuvenate their midfield. However, Sundowns extended their lead further in the 49th minute. Lucas Ribeiro embarked on a dynamic run down the right wing, delivering a low cross that found Matthews. His shot took a deflection, hitting the inside of the post before crossing the goal line, securing his second goal of

the evening.

Despite the uphill battle, SuperSport endeavoured to find a way back into the match. Their efforts were hampered in the 87th minute when defender Siyabonga Ndebele received a second yellow card for a reckless challenge, resulting in his dismissal and reducing the team to ten men.

Implications and Upcoming Fixtures

This defeat marks SuperSport United's fourth consecutive loss in the league, leaving them in 12th position on the table, four points shy of the top eight—a crucial threshold for MTN8 qualification.

Mamelodi Sundowns, with this victory, not only bolster their position at the top but also send a clear message to their title rivals. The upcoming fixture against Orlando Pirates on Saturday, 8 February, promises to be a pivotal encounter in the title race. A win for Sundowns could potentially create a nine-point gap, providing them with a significant cushion as the season progresses.

SuperSport United will aim to halt their losing streak when they travel to face Sekhukhune United on Sunday, 9 February. A positive result is imperative for them to revive their season and climb back into contention for the top eight.

Post-Match Reactions

Sundowns' head coach expressed satisfaction with his team's performance, highlighting their tactical discipline and clinical finishing. He commended Jayden

Adams for his impactful contribution and lauded Tashreeq Matthews for his brace, emphasizing the importance of maintaining momentum ahead of the crucial clash with Orlando Pirates.

SuperSport United's coach acknowledged the superiority of the opposition and lamented the defensive errors that led to the goals. He stressed the need for his team to regroup and focus on the upcoming fixtures to turn their fortunes around.

Key Statistics

- **Possession:** Mamelodi Sundowns dominated possession, controlling 75.4% of the ball, while SuperSport United managed 24.6%.
- **Shots on Target:** Sundowns registered multiple shots on target, reflecting their attacking prowess, whereas SuperSport struggled to test Ronwen Williams significantly.
- **Disciplinary Actions:** The match saw several bookings, culminating in the sending off of Siyabonga Ndebele in the 87th minute for a second bookable offence.

Historical Context

The Tshwane Derby has always been a fixture of high stakes and intense rivalry. In recent times, Mamelodi Sundowns have asserted dominance, with this victory marking their fourth win in the last five encounters against SuperSport United. This trend underscores the shifting balance of power in Pretoria's football landscape.



16 TEAMS

EDGARLEGOALE KNOCKOUT

EASTER SOCCER TOURNAMENT 2025

#PUREKASIFOOTBALL

“SAY NO TO DRUGS, YES TO GOALS!”

1ST R50 000 | 2ND R10 000 | 3RD R5000

TEAM AFFILIATION FEE: R1500.00

DATE: 18-21 APRIL 2025 | TIME: 9AM

@MANDELA SPORTS GROUND

(Near Boitlamo Secondary School)
PARYS - TUMAHOLE - FREESTATE

Team Affiliation Closes on 1 April 2025

blQsnaps For More Information and Registration Form:
DJ Pots (Mzwandile Sontyale), Tournament Manager at (078) 466-2089 (available on WhatsApp and Call)
CENTRAL NEWS Blessing Maphisa, Assistant Tournament Manager at +27 76 649 1472 (WhatsApp) or +27 673038688 (call)

Elksc And @edgarlegoalefoundation @edgarlegoalefoundation @edgarlegoaleknockout www.edgarlegoale.com



SUPERSPORT UNITED VS. MAMELODI SUNDOWNS
BETWAY PREMIERSHIP - GAME 14

0-3

FULL-TIME