



■ POLITICS

'Worry of one-party state'

Maimane's resignation has paralysed the party and left the door open for the EFF

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SOUTH Africa's official opposition is in crisis, and the future of the DA looks bleak. Political analysts have warned that the country could be dominated by the ANC.

Political analyst Dr Ralph Mathekgga said: "We should worry about us becoming a one-party state because we have a weak opposition party. The situation within the DA is visibility getting out of control. They need new leadership quickly."

Mathekgga said the resignation of the party's leader, Mmusi Maimane, on Wednesday left the DA paralysed.

"He (Maimane) has bitten a massive chunk into the DA and made it weaker," Mathekgga said.

Tension started brewing within the party after former leader Helen Zille was elected as the party's federal executive chairperson, the most powerful position in the party. The chess pieces then started falling, with Johannesburg mayor Herman Mashaba resigning on Monday and Maimane resigning on Wednesday, with former

Nelson Mandela Bay mayor and party chairperson Athol Trollip.

Political analyst Sanusha Naidoo said the landscape within the DA had changed, and this had prompted the resignations.

"There was definitely a realisation from Maimane that the landscape has changed dramatically and he won't have the freedom to move around as flexibly as he likes with Zille around. At the moment, there is no official opposition in Parliament, and this gives leeway for the EFF to become the official opposition party," she said.

Naidoo said it looked like a case of déjà vu for Maimane: "Patricia de Lille suffered the same fate. There does seem to be some sort of grouping within the DA that is vicious and will do anything in its power to get rid of someone," she said.

But Amanda Gouws, from the Political Science Department at Stellenbosch University, said the party would not recover from this: "This won't end well for the DA. They will lose black votes. They won't recover from this because they are too out of touch," Gouws said.

Philip Morris SA welcomes Sars study

TOBACCO company Philip Morris SA welcomed finance minister Tito Mboweni's March 2020 deadline for a major SA Revenue Service (Sars) study into the extent of illicit trade.

Illegal trade in cigarettes has cost more than R40 billion in tax revenue since 2010, according to the Tobacco Institute of Southern Africa.

Overall, South Africa reportedly loses R1 trillion a year, or 20% of gross domestic product, to the illicit economy, with proceeds generally used to fund drug smuggling, human trafficking and other serious crimes.

Mboweni's commitment for Sars to look into the issue is a welcome move, Philip Morris managing director Marcelo Nico said.

"The findings of the Sars research into the illicit economy will help strengthen co-operation between the state, private sector, and civil society," he said. | African News Agency (ANA)



Oscar Mabuyane

State-of-the-art taxi rank opens today

HAWKERS, taxi operators and commuters in Komani, Eastern Cape, are expected to benefit from a multimillion-rand state-of-the-art new taxi rank.

The taxi rank will be officially opened today by Eastern Cape Premier Oscar Mabuyane.

The provincial Department of Transport injected R8.9 million into the construction of the brand new taxi rank, aimed at helping to develop an enabling infrastructure network that promotes economic activity.

Spokesperson Unathi Binqose said the rank would provide a one-stop shop and a public transport facility to scores of local commuters.

Binqose said it would create business opportunities for local hawkers and an emergency vehicle repairs centre for local mechanics servicing taxis using the rank. | African News Agency (ANA)

SAA, Air Mauritius set for joint venture

THE Competition Commission of SA has said it has granted an exemption to SAA and Air Mauritius to form a joint venture on the Johannesburg and Mauritius route, and others.

It said the exemption, granted for five years, would allow collaboration on the network, scheduling, revenue management and distribution across both carriers.

"SAA and Air Mauritius will align their economic incentives by pooling the revenue and costs associated with the provision of commercial passenger and cargo services on the trunk route between Mauritius and Johannesburg and the behind and beyond destinations.

"Further, these airlines will synchronise passenger and cargo capacity, expand their joint networks access new markets and deliver consumer benefits and efficiencies," the commission said. | African News Agency (ANA)

Man, 34, found burnt to death in Lotus River

THE POLICE are investigating the death of a 34-year-old man who was found in a burnt out vehicle in Lotus River yesterday.

According to Cape Town Fire and Rescue Service spokesperson, Jermaine Carelse, the incident occurred early in the morning.

According to Grassy Park police spokesperson Siyabulela Malo, the police attended the scene.

"The circumstances surrounding this matter are being investigated, and our crime scene experts are combing the scene for all clues," Malo said.

According to a Lotus River community worker, the deceased was an informal mechanic from Egoli, an informal settlement in the area. | Kauthar Gool

■ EDUCATION

Protest over varsity lodging

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PROTEST action by students at UWC yesterday led to heavy traffic congestion around Robert Sobukwe Road and Symphony Way in Bellville.

According to UWC spokesperson Gasant Abarder, students had been picketing since Tuesday and yesterday they had blocked the entrance to campus because of accommodation issues involving a South Point residence in Belhar.

"Some of our students who reside at South Point, a privately owned student accommodation, received a communication informing them that they may not be accommodated at the residence because the company was in the process of concluding an

agreement with another institution that would result in little or no bed spaces for our students.

"The university wants to avoid a situation where South Point may play it off against the other institution to increase pricing. We have been in discussions with management at the residence and we have presented our own agreement for review and discussion because we would like to maintain the number of bed spaces we have at the moment," Abarder said.

He also said that since April, UWC had been engaging bulk private accommodation providers in preparation for the 2020 academic year.

"These discussions are still ongoing and the plan is to ensure that there are additional bed spaces that are available to funded students, as landlords insist

that they only accept fully funded students," said Abarder.

South Point, after consultations with UWC representatives, had confirmed that the discussions were ongoing and feedback would be provided to the university next week, with the resolution considering both short and mid-term solutions, including plans supported by the Department of Higher Education and Training to build a new student residence with a capacity of 2700 beds.

Abarder said UWC deans and department heads were looking into the few assignments and tests which were still to be completed and lecturers would communicate alternative arrangements as soon as possible.

Today is the final day of lectures at the university.

■ POLICING

Cele calls for students' input to make campuses safe

POLICE Minister Bheki Cele has engaged with the vice-chancellors from the country's universities on improving campus safety, and new approaches to policing to facilitate it.

With the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSiRA) responsible for the regulation of the private security industry at institutions of higher learning, Cele said he was stressed about the importance of students feeling safe and being safe on and off campus.

This comes after the recent spate of violence and murders. Cele urged students to also come on board.

"Students shouldn't feel that as the police are creating police states around them. We want a dialogue with them and for them to be part of the fight against crime.

"We know alcohol is a big contributor to students coming under attack and attacking each other, this is why we'll be going hard on illegal drinking



POLICE minister Bheki Cele is talking to vice-chancellors of universities in the country about improving safety on campuses, and new policing approaches. Pictured with him is the acting police commissioner, Bonang Ngwenya. | PHANDO JIKELO African News Agency (ANA)

■ POLITICS

Court denies interdict against EFF, Malema

THE Equality Court sitting in the North Gauteng High Court in Pretoria dismissed an SA National Editors' Forum (Sanef) application to interdict EFF leader Julius Malema and his followers from intimidating and harassing journalists.

Sanef and journalists Barry Bateman from Eyewitness News, Pauli van Wyk of the Daily Maverick, Adriaan Basson from News24, Max du Preez, and Ranjeni Munusamy of the Sunday Times, wanted the court to inter-

dict Malema and his supporters from intimidating journalists on public and social media platforms.

They claimed Malema was engaging in hate speech. Sanef also wanted the court to order the EFF to publicly apologise to journalists listed as complainants.

During arguments heard over two days, advocate Daniel Burger, for Sanef, said the EFF and Malema created an environment that was hostile to journalists. Burger said Malema's words were intimidating and were also a call to violence.

He argued that Malema, as a leader, had to know that what he says had consequences and set a precedent for his followers.

Advocate Tembeka Ngcukaitobi, for Malema, defended his client by claiming that "no reasonable person" would take Malema's rhetoric seriously.

He argued that the EFF had always been vocal about non-violence, and he warned the courts against stripping the party and its leaders of the freedom of speech.

| African News Agency (ANA)

■ COURT

'We do not recognise Constitution'

A GROUP calling themselves the "Aboriginal Nation" got off on the wrong foot with high court Judge Vincent Saldanha when they told him they did not recognise either the Constitution of South Africa, or the court.

Sabina Clarisse, representing the applicants, asked Judge Saldanha to allow proceedings to be heard in terms of the common law.

In papers, she asked the court to abolish with immediate effect the term coloured and replace it with "aboriginal" or "indigenous".

She also wanted the court to immediately rule that indigenous languages be recognised.

Roseline Nyman appeared on behalf of the Presidency, while Sharma Chetty, from the Office of the State Attorney, represented the National Treasury and Sars.

"The Western Cape High Court is established under the Constitution of South Africa. We, as aboriginals, have been taken out of the Constitution and were not even part of the Codesa dealings. We therefore do not recognise the Constitution," Clarisse said.

She added that by virtue of their lineage, aboriginal/indigenous people were akin to shareholders in a trust (the SA Corporation), "and therefore, we demand \$10 million for each and every aboriginal man and woman".

In reply, the judge said: "You come into a court and don't recognise it, as well as the constitution of the country. I'm bound by the Constitution and cannot act outside of it."

Nyman argued that the relief sought by Clarisse differed from that sought in her original paperwork.

Judgment was reserved.

,holes that fuel crime, especially on weekends," said Cele at the meeting in Joburg.

The chief executive officer of PSiRA, Manabela Chauke, said all universities had to have minimum security standards and all security officers deployed on campuses had to be vetted and trained specifically for the student environment.

"The violence on and off campuses extends to more than just gender-based violence. We're now seeing that there are attacks and violence against the overall student community."

Universities of South Africa chief executive Professor Ahmed Bawa told the gathering that students had to be an integral part of the safety changes they wanted to see on campuses.

"We can't do this alone, we need the buy-in from students, the communities around the institutions and the SAPS," Bawa said. | African News Agency (ANA)

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Little Mowbray and Rosebank Improvement District NPC (LMRID) will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM). All stakeholders are invited to a review of the year's activities and planning for 2020-2021.

Date: Thursday 21st November, 2019
Time: 19h00 (registration for meeting), 19h30 (meeting commence)
Venue: Mossop Hall, cnr Cheltenham and Roseberry Roads, Little Mowbray.

Resolutions presented at the AGM may only be voted on by bona fide members of the LMRID. Membership is free of charge to all owners of property within the LMRID, but they must be registered before 14th November, 2019.

For further information regarding AGM documentation and how to register: www.lmrid.capetown,
email: info@lmrid.capetown or phone 08610 56743