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DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY
ANC PRESS STATEMENT ON THE LAUDIUM OUTRAGE

The dastardly act perpetrated against a house of worship in Laudium, Pretoria, cannot but be condemned in the strongest possible terms.

The African National Congress views this outrage with a deep sense of shock and dismay. We consider the Laudium bomb blast a deliberate attempt by agents provocateur to sow discord and

division among a minority community which, together with the majority of our people, were made hapless victims for decades by an evil, oppressive and a pernicious apartheid system

At a time when our people are moving towards the creation of a genuine democratic and social

order the African National Congress appeals to members of the Indian Community, both Hindu

and Muslims, not to be diverted from their cherished objective of attaining full and unfettered

freedoms and human rights for all South Africans.

This is a time when maximum unity and the closing of ranks of all the oppressed and democratic

forces is called for. We cannot afford any diversionary tactics to weaken, stall or delay the

process of change - and the temple blast must be seen in this perspective.

We would like to emphasise that the ANC, in its proposed Bill of Rights, is committed to full

religious freedom and tolerance for all and condemns all acts of intolerance and bigotry.

We call upon our fellow South Africans to remain calm and dignified, not to be provoked and

thereby become victims of agents provocateurs and forces bent on dividing us.

The ANC further calls upon the Government to leave no stone unturned to bring the perpetrators

of this deed to book.

Issued by the Department of Information and Publicity

P.O.Box 61884
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20 January 1993