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Page 6 - A3NT Y TTHE CITIZEN

Friday.5-Febraary. 1999

THE CITIZEN
COMMENT

Fine code but
bad examples

A NEW disciplinary code â\200\230has been agreed
between the government and public service

unions, making it easier to dismiss public ser-:

vants for misconduct. ;
Good idea, especially if it helps cut down on cor

ruption without, for example, having senior |â\200\231
officials suspended on full pay while their

cases drag on for years. %% & e
Streamlining the disciplinary code is -an excel

lent start, and we are pleased the unions have |.

agreed to co-operate. Streamlining the public
service would also be a good idea, since the
. government spends more than R3,5 billion a

year paying 54 000 public servants who have |

no designated posts and no work to do.
Presumably this agreement on a new discipli-

nary code is one of the fruits of the Public,

Sector Anti-Corruption Conference held in
Cape Town in November.

On that occasion . Deputy President Thabo

. NP spokesman,

â\200\234 ANC not serious about corruption

IN a speech to an Anti-Corruption

Conference in November last year Thabo

"Mbeki stated that corruption has become
. "the misdirected juggernaut of society."

He then posed the question "as to how much
longer the sojourners on the road to transfor-
mation will be put to the ultimate test of ethical
fitness and be found wanting?" Over the past

week or so there have been two tests of the
" "ethical fitness" of the ANC government and in. -

both cases they have been found sadly wanting.
Ramesh Vassen was appointed to the post of

- Consul-General in Mumbai (Bombay), India,

despite having been struck off the Attorney's

Roll for misappropriation of funds.

This appointment could have been ascribed

to carelessness, yet the Foreign Affairs
- Minister Alfred Nzo has confessed that the
. department knew all along Mr Vassen had

been struck off the roll. And despite the public
outcry the ANC has insisted on going ahead

- with the appointment.

Presidential spokesman Parks Mankahlana
stated that Vassen "was a committed activist
whose credentials have been... marred only by
the one folly." The Director General of Foreign
Affairs and one-time ANC MP, Jackie Selebi,
defended the appointment by quoting from the
glowing testimonial that Boy Geldenhuys, the
aided for Mr Vassen. Nzo
stated that "we believe (Vassen) has been
appropriately punished and that he deserves a

theft of R60 000 life insurance policy.

. It is also incorrect to claim that Vassen had
merely "lent" himself this money. Both the
Cape High Court and the Appeal Court: which
found that the claim that Vassen had merely
borrowed the money was "simply not accept-
able, and cannot be true." The Appeal Court
also ruled that "the fact that the money stolen
was repaid does not detract from the serious-
ness of his offence." :

In November of last year Mrs Lyndall
Shope-Mafole was appointed by the De-
partment of Foreign Affairs to the post of chief
manager of International Telecommunications
policy in Paris. The DP has been informed that
Ms Shope-Mafole has now been made Minister
(second in command to the Ambassador) in
Paris. This is despite the fact that Ms Shope-
Mafole had to resign from the IBA after the

. Auditor-General uncovered misappropriation

of funds. In February of last Ms Shope-Mafole still owed the gove nt R88 611.
(The other two councillors owed the sum of R115 000). According to a more recent inves-

out corruption at home.

There is, however, another lesson to be drawn from the whole affair. The jobs-for-pals tendency in the ANC makes it extremely difficult for that party to act against corruption once someone has been appointed. o

Vassen was of course an old law partner of Justice Minister Dullah Omar. In a 1995 letter to the Cape Law Society Vassen stated that "I did a great deal of work on Robben Island and

_thus became closely acquainted with many

people who are presently holding important and high positions, including the President of the country." '

At the beginning of the year the wife of Public Service and Administration Minister, Zola Skweyiya, was appointed as the Ambassador to Paris. The daughter-in-law of Walter and Albertina Sisulu has been appointed ambassador to Washington. And now comes Lyndall Shope-Mafole, who is the widow of Tebogo Mafole, a senior advisor to Thabo Mbeki after 1994 and a Deputy Director-General in th- Department of Foreign Affairs after 1995. She is the daughter of Gertrude Shope, an ANC MP and ex-President of the ANCâ\200\231s Womenâ\200\231s League. ;

The ap. ntment of cronies means that if alleged corraption is exposed it is that much harder to *ake action. It is one thing to fire an employee caught with his hands in the till, it is quite another thing when that person is a friend or family member. It eventually reaches a point

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ln prison worry minister

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enders

their way out of prison, while minor offenders without the means to pay R50 bail â\200\234had to stay in the

systemâ\200\235.

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146 000 people sit in cells designed for 99 000, the

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The aim was a more fluid approach, facilitated by the National Crime Prevention Strategy and the Integrated Justice System. One option was the more extensive use of community sentencing by courts.

The system would result in cuts in the stateâ\200\231s

With SA jails bursting at the seams as more than

costs and avert the need for increasing numbers of

Skosana said the electronic monitoring of pris-
prisons and prisons staff.

oners on probation would probably be introduced this year, following the successful pilot of electronic monitoring of offenders in Gauteng, using 10 000 of-
fenders convicted. of lesser crimes. Contract spec-
ifications had been finalised and Parliament had giv-

en the go-ahead.

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_Skosana

announced this week that 10 000

â\200\230Ben
prisoners would be released annu-

Minister

cabinet accepts the proposal and -
the tender process runs smoothly,
the Department of Correctional Ser--
vices announced yesterday.

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By Bhungani Mzolo

BOUT 3 400 children become victims of
violent crimes such as rape, assault and
abduction in South Africa every month,
according to the latest figures released
by the policeâ\200\231s child protection unit in Pretoria,
The statistics also show that about 140 000
children were victims of violent crimes such as
rape, indecent assault, attempted murder, abduc-
tion and kidnapping in the period between 1994
and 1998. -
Of this figure, 53224 children were raped

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over the four years. This means on average 887

children were raped a month, or 29 a day, while
83 others were victims of other violent crimes. .

.The CPUâ\200\231s Superintendent Anneke Pienaar
said:-â\200\234The 1994-1995 figures exciude those from
the former TBVC states, and also (areas) where
there is no child protection unit.â\200\235

In total, 141 265 children under 18 years were
victims of rape, attempted murder, mcesl assault
and kidnapping.

" In 1996 alone police reported that a staggering
13 859 children were sexually molested â\200\224 a figure
which increased by 864 in 1997 to'14 723. !

In the period between January and June 1996
7046 chldren were raped.

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ally with electronic bracelets to -

~ were victims of various crimes. .

| Jail s,eparation Sug_gested

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countryâ\200\231s 235 jails, which
were built for 99 000.

In addition, the govern-
ment was considering the
release of 10000 â\200\234less
seriousâ\200\231â\200\231 criminals.

New National Party
spokesman Gert Qosthui-
zen said criminals had to
pay â\200\224 if petty crimes were
left unpunished, it would
incvitably lead to more
serious crime.

â\200\234Criminals must feel the
full brunt of the law and
must be punished accord-
ing to the seriousness of

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TEERS SREYE | Criminals had to pay for
. their crimes against soci-
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S5Eg gEigdZ 4 | said.
4SS TE 2848208 [: .
g: oS Â©â\200\231 D =0 3 | Correctional Services
g9 Ea'. EEELESS | Minister Ben Skosana said
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Hg88TEÂ\$ gnE _g I this week there were
B8 - Rkt | 5. %.â\200\230;"21'822'2 % 146 278 prisoners in the
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By Gershwin Chuenyane

HUMAN rights organisations yes-
terday criticised the revised privilege
system for prisoners awaiting trial
as being contrary to the spirit of the
countryâ\200\231s Constitution.

Lawyers for Human Rights
(LHR) and Human Rights Commis-

He said

sion (HRC) referred to aspects of the lapen said:
% revised privilege policy as unfair and lations is
unjustified. awaiting

The privilege policy prescribing,
among other things, that prisoners
awaiting trial may only have two
visits a week, no visits on weekends
and public holidays and phone calls
limited to 10 minutes, came into
effect in November last year.

LHRâ\200\231s Advocate Rudolf Jansen
said: â\200\234Some of the stricter measures
can be justified by the fact that some
prisoners pose a greater security
risk, but the majority of the restric-

raised as a

to all prisol

Other crimes against children included 283
cases of attempted murder in 1996, 255 in 1997
and 155 in 1998. -

Police were also mundnted with cases of child

abductions: 1 184 in 1996 962 in 1997 and 478 in 1998.

In the first six months of 1998, 17 414 children

Other figures show that 7 142 children were reported as missing by: (help parents or guardians

during this period I i

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treated unfairly

tions do not relate to security issues.
* We therefore believe that they are treated unfairly.

the LHR was busy with

litigation about the privileges of prisoners awaiting trial. He said the matter would be heard in the Pretoria High Court soon.

HRC commissioner Jody Kollapen

If the effect of the regulations to punish prisoners trial who are still

regarded as innocent it smacks of

unfair treatment and is contrary to

the spirit of the Constitution.
Kollapen said if security was

factor, then the authorities

should not have tampered with the rules and regulations.

Correctional Service's Rudi Potgieter denied any form of discrimination against prisoners awaiting trial, as the same regulations applied

ns countrywide.

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the crime,â\200\231â\200\231 he said.

Although the NNP was aware of prison overcrowding, even petty criminals had to atone for their wrongdoings.

One solution was to use old army barracks to house them. This would also separate them from the negative influence of career criminals, said Mr Qosthuizen.

Mr Jan Bosman, Federal Alliance spokesman, said that if crime had not been such a serious issue, the Ministerâ\200\231s statement would have been considered a joke.

â\200\234Government has not learnt from past mistakes.

â\200\234With the 80th birthday - of President Mandela, 9000 criminals were freed. Some of them went back to their old ways and some even committed : murder.

â\200\234If government is serious about the war on crime, prisoner releases must not even be considered â\200\224 it would confirm that this government is soft on crime.

â\200\234Petty criminals are criminals, and should be treated as such,â\200\235â\200\231 said Mr | Bosman. !

They could earn their keep by building schools, hospitals and houses, and clean roadsides and townships. Their presence on the streets would act as a deterrent.

The Federal Alliance believed that murderers and rapists should be subject to the death penalty, Mr Bosman added.

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3 Furore follows article in The Star which showed:some fire; -
police and ambulance workers put cash before victimsâ\200\231 lives -
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| port, _ .) e, and reporter R650 for towing a car from anâ\200\235
] o ment, themotor industry, Gill â\200\230Gifford, who broke the - - t aind thont Sag
"| police and traffic departments, story, has been inundatedewitï\201 ::gÃ@ (ii\gl ; ls()c"
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as well astow-truck associa-

harajâ\200\231s private secre Ben
Eybers said the minit:tlx"yy was
considering regulating the in-
dustry, and this would probably
take the form of a permit sys-
tem similar to that seen in the
taxi industry. -

The Star caused heated de-
bate yesterday when it revealed
that three people are alleged to
have died because some police
and civilian employees at the

. Johannesburg flying squad had

called tow-truck companies
ahead of ambulance services.

calls from motorists who

tions, are up in arms about the claimed the i

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:mscrupulous behaviour of the â\200\234taken for a rideâ\200\235 or alme:sl:
ow truck industry and agree been â\200\234wiped outâ\200\235 by the â\200\234un-
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The Star it was general practice

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Everyone is
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cut. it's all
about money

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among the vultures to pay be-

The Automobile Association between R150 and R300 i
to officials
illammed the practice as to get accident tipoffs.
dangerous and unacceptable. And it's not only the traffic -

The hour following an acci-
dent is a critical period during
which the life of an accident
victim can often be saved, said
AA spokesperson Petra Kruger.

Five members of the Jo-
hannesburg flying squad have
been dismissed because of the

officers: it's people in the po-
lice, ambulance and fire ser-
vices. Everyone is in it for their
cut. It is usually the traffic guys
who get the first call, so they
are usually the ones to work
with. But sometimes an ambu-

" cion and very hard to prove.

- ous role-players in Gauteng

and order to the industry.

lance, firemen or police will be -

practice, and others are under phoned first.

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Govt job cuts before
end of '99 minister

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PUBLIC service retrenchments would start
before the end of the year, Public Service
and Administration Minister Zola
Skweyiya said in the city yesterday.

Addressing a media briefing, Skweyiya said audits in all national departments and provinces to determine the needs to render

.| Thereafter, similar processes
| would start in the other
provinces with simultaneous internal
audits conducted in national departments.
Skweyiya said the lessons learnt in
auditing the two problem provinces would
be used to speed up the audits of the other
provincial administrations. â\200\234By the end of
the year those identified for redeployment
and retrenchment will be known, but I
don't see it taking the whole year and hope
for this a lot sooner,â\200\235 Skweyiya said.

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â\200\235""?â\200\231â\200\234'fâ\200\230-i-\202'i-\201;?i-\201â\200\230}\

Asked whether retrenchments could | Ty
start sooner in the Eastern Cape and North- ;.
ern Province, the minister said this was
theoretically possible, but questioned
whether the unions would accept this as a
total skills audit would not have been com-
pleted and redeployment options would

ment first announced its | %
intention to cut jobs.

â\200\234Itâ\200\231s taken far too long,â\200\235 he admitted | .
but said the unions had been â\200\234rightly and |
justlyâ\200\235 concerned with the way in which | -
rationalisation was first attempted. â\200\234It was | =~
never checked what jobs there were for
them and as a result sometimes the deliv-
ery of services suffered.â\200\235 He also conceded
that the new Labour Relations Act had
enormous implications for retrenchments.
â\200\224 Parliamentary Bureau

the panelbeating company the
take it to.â\200\235 - '-y Y

He said it was not tusual
3 fog the towing:companies or-
: drivers to be phoned before am-

balance or other services. : ' :

Brian Hogan, Medical Emergency Services deputy chief operator for Greater Johannesburg, said there had been previous situations where officials at a command centre were

found to be guilty of tipping off |

tow truckers: Although I have my suspicions that it may be carrying on, it is just a suspi-

.For the past two years, vari-

have been working on a draft tow-truck bill, which is now

with the national Department

of Transport. One of the role- - °
-~ players, Motor Industries Fed-

eration deputy executive chairperson Willem Schroeder; said - it was time that legislation was | put in place to bring some law |

Charles Byrne, chairperson of the Metropolitan Accident and Recovery Association, said it was essential to regulate the

industry. o

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services would be completed during the therefore be limited. {
year, after which decisions He said the cabinet had |-
would be taken on the rede- â\200\231By the end Of urged the process to be | B4
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| Eastern Cape and Northern and retrenchment tion of the rationalisation g
7] Province and should be 4 â\200\231 issue which has stalled |-
+7] completed next month. will be kiâ\200\231IOWTl somewhat since the govern-

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., involved in accidents could in :

~ â\200\234ifuture be sued - in some cases - 2
7 gers were killed near. Ward

% for'millions of randsâ\200\231~ by the:
42 KwaZulu Natal Dgpax;tm@gt of

7 Health. Â£ 505

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=:./,"The department,wants all ~
* bus accidents fully investigated

â\200\234and will sue in cases where

. negligence can be proved on

the part of the owner or driver.
Bus accidents have become

~ aserious drain on the budget of
" the .provincial administration
-and the Department of Health
- says it intends to recover some
- of the medical costs involved.

. -7 The accident victims are of- .

> ten poor people who are unable
to pay for their medical treat-
ment or rehabilitation.

;â\200\230[__ They are treated therefore -

" sometimes for many years â\200\224 at

_ the expense of the department -
.and the taxpayer. = . :

. _â\200\234It is inappropriate to use
" the' taxpayersâ\200\231 money in this

- caused the accident,â\200\235 said the
. head of the Department of
. Health, Professor. . Ronnie
â\200\230Green-Thompson. .~ "
- â\200\234It is also of concern to us
that some of the bus accidents
- have a repetitive theme - with
_the same owner involved.â\200\235

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Linda Ensor

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' Bus owners whose vehicles are -

.- //The bus belonged to a'com::
â\200\234pany â\200\230whose vehicles had â\200\230been
involved in three serious acci--:

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Thompson = was

'speaking in the wake of the bus

accident.in which 34 passen-

in the Free State. -

dents in KwaZulu Natal in little
more than five years. .
Green-Thompson said tha

.in future all major bus acci-

â\200\234way_ when. negligence has |

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[Umtata printees,
paid to do nothing

dents in KwaZulu Natal would

It will be an

incentive to
keep fleet in -
good order -

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be fully investigated with the
help of the provincial traffic
police. â\200\231

. â\200\234We want to know if the bus

" had smooth tyres or was in any

way unroadworthy. _

â\200\234We want to know if the driver had driven long distances through the early hours of the

| O R et T |
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practically nothing.

recover the excesses paid.- .

CAI;E TOWN â\200\224 About 230 employees at the government printing works in Umtata | are being paid R15,5m anndally to do

Home affairs director-general Albert Mokoena told Parliamentâ\200\231s public accounts standing committee yesterday that the unprofitable plant could not be closed down because of the moratorium on retrenchments in the public sector. Retrenchment. would be more expensive than paying the workers to do nothing. . Where there were too many people to do one function, frustration sometimes led to alcoholâ\200\231abuse, extended sick leave and bouts of absenteeism, he said. From January to November 1997, sick leave totalled 3 663 days, or 24 days per worker. ' Committee chairman Ken Andrew said the works were managed â\200\234appallinglyâ\200\235. Salaries represented 71% of expenditure and some orders which should take three months to execute took about a year.: , - Deputy director-general Ivan Lambi-non said many of the employees had | irregularly been given higher salaries and | rankings which they had had to forfeit fol- | lowing the findings of the White commiis- | sion into irregular promotions. Lower salaries would take effect froni Marchâ\200\2301 and ways were being investigated. to.

Mokoena said a tender had gone out | for a feasibility study on how to convert . . the works into a profitable enterprise.

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ys taken by public servants [
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he issue at its meeting tomorrow.
Committee member Gavin Woods said th
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that legal action against the
bus owners would help to im-
prove safety standards.. =~ -'
It will create an incentive
- for the owners to ensure that
their fleet is in good order and
their . staff are not guilty of
negligence.â\200\235 . L
He said a "serious bus
accident could make a â\200\234major
dentâ\200\235 in-the budget of his de-
partment.
â\200\234We cannot budget for these
accidents, as we donâ\200\231't know how
â\200\230many there are going to be.â\200\235 .

It is difficult to assess ex-

actly the direct and hidden
- costs of a bus accident. LR
-â\200\234But there is no doubt that
some have cost millions.â\200\235 " :::
1 His public relations officer,
Dave McGlew, said the depart-
ment accepted. the need to pro-
vide assistance in the case of
â\200\234real accidentsâ\200\235. s
~ â\200\234But many of these crashes
are not accidents, They are the
result of negligence. So why
should we pick up the tab?â\200\235:

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A plan to save the city of Johannesburg from
bankruptcy has met with resistance from
unions, writes LUKANYO MNYANDA

reater Johannesburg

city manager Ketso

ordhanâ\200\231s master plan

to avert a looming finan-

cial crisis in South Africaâ\200\231s eco-

nomic heartland threatens to

clash headlong with union leaders
who this week vowed to resist it.

They are adamant there must
be more consultation about re-
structuring and attendant re-
trenchmentd before the scheme is
implemented.

Council sources say privatisa-
tion and outsourcmg of municipal
services ar8 central to Gordhan's
plans to savÃ© the city about R300
million or fice tey by the
end of next month.

Gordhan was unavailable for
comment. this week but he is be-
lieved to be embarking on an ag-
gressive strategy to cut costs.

Lack of funds has already
forced the western metropolitan
substructure to delay a plan to re-
settle about 340 families from an
informal settlement outside Rood-

epoort to Durban Deep. A spokesman said the plan would have cost at least R15 million.

Gordhan's strategy for the revival of Johannesburg, sources say, consists of three strategies â rationalisation, privatisation and outsourcing â which should place him in conflict with labour who insist that restructuring be discussed at the central forum consisting of national and local governments and labour.

A planned South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) strike by about 20000 municipal workers over the privatisation of â union-coreâ services was narrowly averted last year after the council threatened to apply for an interdict.

Services earmarked for privatisation are believed to include .

public safety, ambulance services, metro gas, the Johannesburg fresh fruit market, Rand Airport as well as the outsourcing of the

1 council's vehicle fleet. Union spokesmen said they believed all -

council services were â coreâ and warned that they would not accept outsourcing if it was not ad-

! cept outsourcing if it was not ad-

panied by job security for its members.

The transformation of greater Johannesburg into a â megacityâ is gathering pace and has led to uneasiness among metro council managers with more than 1000 set to lose their jobs in the next couple of years.

An official in one of the metros said between 80 and 90 senior man-

agers were quitting Johannesburg each month, citing job insecurity

in the light of the changes. Johannesburg's bloated bu-

reaucracy consists of four metro-

: politan substructures, each with

its own chief executive officer,
strategic executives and executive
officers, who preside over several

departments with duplicated

functions.

A report by independent con-

sultants last year found almost

half of Greater Johannesburg's
R2 billion salary bill was spent on
perks for senior employees and

that the council and its four local

authorities were inefficient, inef-
fective and unaffordable.

Samwu officials said this week

they had always advocated the ra- .-

tionalisation of Johannesburg's

o,

bureaucracy, but vowed to "fight

fiercely" if the job losses filtered
down to their members.

"We have always opposed du-
plication and have no problem
with reducing the number of se-
nior managers, as long as it is
done in a responsible and gradual
manner," Caleb Mokoena,
Samwu's deputy chairman, said.
"We are aware he is working
under heavy time pressure ... but
short cuts will be greeted with re-
sistance and he has to follow the
correct procedures."

Gordhan has a two-year con-

agreement
CTim "S

here is considerable confusion
and anger in the trade union
movement following news
| that a public-private partnership
" " (PPP) agreement was signed last
Friday between the Dolphin Coast
municipality and a consortium head-
ed by Saur International of France.

The deal was approved by Mohammed Valli Moosa, the minister of provincial affairs. .

}

sidiary, Bouygues, have been placed under formal investigation in France for alleged corruption in water dealings. But they also tend to oppose on principle privatisation of municipal services.

Cosatu-affiliated municipal workers' union

% | tions' union.

o, '2003 - He said the government had 'fool-

shly undermined agreed procedures' with its union allies only months before the election. His views were apparently endorsed by most of the members who yesterday entered a two-day national executive

'Cape Town. -

pany. This covers the Dolphin Coast

Ballito, Chaka's Rock, Uhlali and Sheffield Beach. Particularly galling for. Samwu is the fact that the deal

first: meeting of 'sectoral forum' 2003
HE set up last year AR
"The aim of the forum was to

. | ment specifically to discuss PPP con:
.tracts case by case. As the unions un

- services partnership frame-

. lines the conditions under

el Unions have been highly critical -
1 | of Saur since discovering that execu-

t | tives of* the company and its sub-

5 'delivery. The framework agreement,
_for example, states that the public .

Now many feel betrayed Petrus, :
.Mashishi, the president of the:
* stalled by union resistance. '... '«
union, Samwu, yesterday con-
demned the government for 'making - -
a mockery of months of negotia

committee meeting of the union in 2003:
.received*no comment from Cosatu, 2003
said: Chlppy Olver, the* deputy 'representative' 2003 at Dolphin Coast had :

<'The main issue on the agenda is Â¥+
Fridayâ\200\231s deal, which grants a 30-year .*
water and â\200\230waste services manage-.:
ment contract to the Siza Water Com- '

region north of Durban, including

Was. (concluded only days after thes

. bmng together unions and govern-

derstood it, the sectorat forum woutd

evaluate PPP proposals in
the light of a â\200\234municipal

21

work agreementâ\200\235 that out-

which the private sector
may become involved in mu-
nicipal service delivery.

-often acrimonious debate -
.and tended to be seen by the . .
unions as a victory for pubhc semce

sector is the preferred option. By De-
cember it seemed that the only out-
standing issues were those of the
Dolphin Coast and Nelspruit in .

Umon anger follows oOaStal mumolpal

vg@}l French- led â\200\230 oonsortmm i

. The decision on Dolphin
Coast â\200\234took us completely
by surprise,â\200\235 said Mashishi. :
| â\200\234It was against the spiritof ;. .Â¢
4 the negotiations and threw : .â\200\231
i out of the window months el
of talking.â\200\235

. However, JJ Thabane,

The â\200\230forum and the . Valli Moosaâ\200\231s official b
framework agreement came - - TERRY . spokesman, said the minis- ...;;.
- into being after months of Bew _+ ter had written to Cosatuto =~ "

inform the federation of
the government's assess-
ment of the Dolphin Coast contract "
and to relay its decision. that it j,j T
should go ahead. LA

.. This was confirmed by Oliver St
who pointed out that there had been - s
a last-minute flurry a last week and ;
. that Cosatu had submitted a few im- ~ - .

Mpumalanga; both of which had ne:-. : : plementation details a, whxch had
gotiated PPP contracts. These were

Valli Moosa maintained that the
Dolphin Coast and Nelspruit deals -
were a already in the pipeline a and
.did not, therefore, fall under. the _

_, a framework agreement. The unions

maintained that they should. In an
apparent concession, the govern-
ment in December handed over to
Cosatu copies of the proposed PPP
contracts for union comment.

- a By a mid-January we had com- . -

pleted our assessment but had re-

director: general x of a provincial a af-

fairs. He maintained that Cosatu; a;
~ then a shifted the 'goal posts' a by in:-
- sisting that the sectoral forum

a should be, the body that would vet'

'and could veto all proposals.
The government found this unac- |

teptable. a It would also rob local gov-

; a ernment - of . the right to make deci- -

o a "tsald J Andrew. Ferguson, . the ":

D) "a hin\Coast* chief" executive. But

f, i- \202xe a unions a were firmly of the opin-:

a make the decxsmns a otherwise why -
bother; to set it, up in the first place? a

et

tract, said to be valued at about '

R1,4 million, to revive Johannes-

burg's former-status as the commercial centre of the African continent. The central business district has suffered from a business exodus into the northern suburbs to escape what is seen as a crime-infested, dirty area where municipal bylaws exist in name only.

He appeared happy with the agreement, he

been passed on: R
; Neither Cosatu general secretary Mbhazima Shilowa nor his assistant, Zwelinzima Vavi, were available for comment, but Vavi's office confirmed that Cosatu would be issuing a press statement accusing the government of bad faith? According to Mashishi, government approval of the Dolphin Coast deal was a major blunder.

- will have to take action, he said.

Olver, however, felt the unions were out of touch with their members on the ground. Thei Samwu *:

- attended the PPP launch and ap-

said. The next meeting of the sectoral forum, he added, would negotiate a mechanism for dealing with PPP contracts. The role of the forum was to add flesh to agreements, not to decide whether or not they should proceed. A 57
+ This will come as Tews: to most; S
trade unionists. And many may agree with the comment of: an' na-.

vision. that the sectoral forum should - tional executive committee delegate

yesterday: This is not a sign of government confidence, it's a sign of pure arrogance.

UNEMPLOYMENT Labour minister highlights progressive state projects

o[2(4

Business labour approach

ched about jobs team

Lynne Loxton
PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The government had started discussions with business and labour about a possible task team to reach consensus on retrenchments and job creation, said Mlambe, the labour minister.

During yesterday's national assembly debate on President Mandela's speech last week, Mlambe said he was aware of the divergent perspectives on this matter, (but) we have demonstrated ... that with a common commitment we can reach agreement and act together to build a better life.

I am confident that, as we have done before, we will reach a new consensus on sustainable development and employment creation.

He said unemployment had

been on the rise from an [T estimated 11,8 percent in 1970 to 30 percent in 1993. All sectors of *

the economy had been shedding jobs except the finance industry and the public sector.

The latter was growing .

because of historic extravagant and inefficient public sector management where racially and ethnically segregated bureaucracies were a site of hidden unemployment.

Mlambe said the government had taken a range of economic measures to address structural deficiencies in the economy. These included the development of a sound macro-economic policy, a coherent and well-articulated industrial strategy, restructuring of state assets and a comprehensive transformation of labour markets.

As in similar situations elsewhere in the world, such

Membathisi Mdladlana

interventions take time to show their impact on job creation,â\200\235 he said. B

â\200\234We remain satisfied that an important foundation has been laid for an economy whose efficiency will improve and its ability to absorb more labour (will be) enhanced.â\200\235 He said the National Public Works Programme had created 44000 jobs while the department

of labour had used the Development Bank of Southern Africa as an agency for projects which had generated about 46 700 jobs.

The department of water affairsâ\200\231 â\200\234Water Supplyâ\200\235 and â\200\234Working for Waterâ\200\235 projects

â\200\230had created about 65 000 jobs.

â\200\234Notwithstanding these measures on the part of government, there is a general recognition that efforts aimed at dealing with the scourge of unemployment require a common commitment from all* the actors in the economy,â\200\235 he said

Mandela had spoken of the need to continually evaluate labour market policies to ensure greater job creation.

Mdladlana said there had to be greater focus on job security and job creation. The former was particularly important, he said, because of the wave of retrenchments.

SARS said it had decided that Last year, Nissan SA success-
no revised assessments would be fully appealed to the appeal court

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: tioned off to transnational corpora- ;* sultation w ch legitimises 2 7 e fee it =9

%' Hons, said Mario Luis Lill leader - *iniÃ©hslifes that â\200\224 perhaps â\200\224 | Rev enue Service (SARS) said yes- The National Association of said, vehicle export shbuld be -

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or of. the â\200\230conipany; declined to
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received under ~ R1,5 billion by the government ~ that the provisions of the Income ** comm
ent yesterday. WY
Aaraad &m on our streets this winter,â\200\235 said * 1" â\200\234Ours is different. It wil
l | |*the defunct general export incen- for unpaid rebates under the Tax Act were not-appli
cable to -, Industry s urces claimed that
el vy . tive scheme (Geis). â\200\230scheme. R _benefits received or acquired by a settleme
nt nw%amsï¬\201 Ea been
reached between Sars Ã©nd Nissan m

of w:w.o_Â»_am received from the ' in taxable income on Geis, which
" issued of refunds made inrespect in Bloemfontein for a reduction

taxpayers by way of drawbacks
or rebates in terms of the export
promotion programmeâ\200\235. .
Alistair Cunningham, the

SA after the court judgment but
that its terms were subject to a
confidentiality clause., -

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! BY JOSEY BALLENGER

" The Gauteng department of agricul-
Â© ture, conservation and environment
is reconsidering its approval of the
* contentious Ramada Rhino and Lion
. Resort. Casino development on the-
Â° West Rand, following appeals from
% Witwatersrand University and
- +| Sterkfontein valley residents.
Ramada was one of six parties
â\200\230awarded a casino licence by the
Gauteng gaming and betting board.
The environment department ap-
proved the developerâ\200\231s environmen-
tal impact assessment in October.
Professor Phillip Tobias, the
renowned paleoanthropologist, the
Sterkfontein valley landownersâ\200\231
association and others have consis-
| tently opposed the development, cit-
| ing concerns that it could hinder the
| chances of the areaâ\200\231s paleontologi-

e O A

Rethink on Sterkfontein casin

cally rich caves being recognised as

5 â\200\234ai _ i s T o S RO PG YT EeTRoTs (O

a World Heritage site. They believe that such a large development and its â\200\234multiplier effectâ\200\235 could damage the caves â\200\224 which have yielded the . 2,5-million-year-old skull dubbed >4 Mrs Ples, and, more recently, an |~ even older skeleton â\200\224 as well as ruin the sanctity of what is possibly the . â\200\234cradle of mankindâ\200\235. T o The proposed casino would fafl within 4km of one of the caves, within the â\200\234buffer zoneâ\200\235 that the World Heritage committee, a United Nations body, requires to protect the core. The committee is expected to announce its decision in December. However, Trish Hanekom, head of the Gauteng environment department, said that World Heritage officials who inspected the site two | weeks ago indicated that other sites Â¥ had been approved where developments - including casinos - | fell within buffer zones. ;

O R T

.o Custodians of SAâ\200\231s art heritage

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By Marco GRANELLI

ings were:

Among Klueverâ\200\231s key find-

getrdÃ©Ã©ï¬\201ng

the Pierneef Museum because of a lack of security, and -he

Works of art had been stolen

. and others badly damaged due

to poor performance by the

Department of Arts and Cul-

ture, the -auditor-general has

-~ found.

g In a performance audit for

the period August 1997 to August

1998 tabled in Parliament this

week, Auditor-General Henri

Kluever found examples of art-

works and antiques that had

been ruined due to poor storage

facilities, and uncovered thefts

from museums in Pretoria and
Cape Town.

; The department's 18 institu-

tions are responsible for about

15,3 million inheritance items

or works of art, which had a

: replacement value of about

- R1,4-billion in 1996.

M Unsuitable storage of collec-
tions: permanent damage was

caused to artefacts in the Coert

Steynburg Museum, where
they were stored in four ship-
ping containers. |

Leaking water caused ex-
tensive damage to items stored
in the basement of the Kruger-
park Flats and armoires stored
in the Dunlop Building, were
damaged by water and will cost
R300 000 to restore.

Kluever also found that an

insurance company had re-
fused to pay out a claim of
R308 000 for items damaged by
water because the items had
not been stored correctly.

M Unsuitable protection: Klue-

ver found that thefts had
occurred at Kruger House and

- steps,
development of a register of
/'collections of national signifi-

criticised the department for
an overall lack of sufficient
protection against burglary
and theft. -

The Pierneef Museum

closed last year.
MW Ineffective conservation and
restoration: the auditor-general
found that this work was not
being performed effectively at
various museums, leading to a
â\200\234considerableâ\200\235 increase in the
backlog of conservation and
restoration work./

In his response to the report,
then-director-geheral Roger
Jardine said several corrective
which : included - the

cance, were under way within
the department.

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Medical Schemes Act promulgated â\200\230earlyâ\200\231

New law is<
too soon, say
medical aids
Clmes
ADELE SHEVEL

Johannesburg â\200\224 The medical aid industry was stunned this week to discover that the Medical " Schemes Act had been promulgated sooner than expected, with . the effective date of implementation the first day of this month.

â\200\234I hereby determine 1 February 1999 as the date on which the said Act shall come into operation,â\200\235 it was proclaimed in the Government Gazette on Friday, signed by President Nelson Mandela and Health Minister NKkosazana Zuma.

Arnold Fair, the chairman of the Representative Association of Medical Schemes (Rams), said the early proclamation had taken them by surprise.

â\200\234The regulations which are an integral part of the act havenâ\200\231t yet been finalised. The new act has some fundamental changes which/the medical schemes industry will have to become accustomed to.

â\200\234We need time to readjust. We normally review subscription rates and benefit structures in the last quarter of every year, and to change this would be impractical.â\200\235

But Aslam Dasoo, the director of policy at Rams, said the matter was â\200\234of little concernâ\200\235 and was not an attempt to undermine the industry, but the government faced time constraints.

â\200\234Once the election date is announced parliament has to go electioneering. The concern in the industry is unwarranted.â\200\235

Dasoo said he was in close contact with the health department. :

â\200\234Though the act was promul-
gated on February 1, transitional
8 fag

clauses stipulate that it will only
be effective six months after the
date of promulgation.

â\200\234For the ensuing six months
the status quo will remain, so no
-scheme need be concerned that it
is in contravention of any statute
until August 1.â\200\235

Regulations which have finan-
cial implications for schemes
could only come into effect by
January 1 2000, he said.

The early promulgation is set
to be raised at meeting of the
Council for Medical Schemes, a
statutory body that regulates the
industry and advises the health
ministry.

Certain draft regulations to
govern the act are expected to be
announced by the end of this
month.

Task teams of industry mem-
bers have been working on the
three key areas covering mini-
mum benefits, anti-selection and

savings accounts, which were
contentious during the promul-
gation process.

There are at least 30 items
that have yet to be regulated but
are still in draft form.

Concern has been raised that '
the regulations could be changed
by the health minister without
any legal obligation to rgfer back
to parliament.

The legislation has been
through a turbulent process, op-
posed by a significant proportion -
of the industry. The government
has said its aim was to increase |
access to medical coverage, but |
some industry members have

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~. /i Banksâ\200\231 concerns unfounded | inerals sectorin line .| sifiiiiis s 8
S A TR : : : 2 S . ne b & eoan o33 3
David Greybe De Lange said: â\200\234The committee found no va- [f ;/ [. 4 : W B o R oty S
â\200\230E_g a %g %E .:oâ\200\230,â\200\231 Sâ\200\231g % g S -
ST g lidity to (these) arguments.... Its reading of the {af Or lnvestme t * - e 2=z~ s BEOE
%< SF ek
. CAPE TOWN â\200\224 Parliamentâ\200\231s justice committee bill is incorrect. The bill do
es not discriminate o : \ n OOST i z & &â\200\230ï~\201 B0 Â\$_ =i g; s =0
- ! yesterday dismissed claims by the Banking Coun- against innocent businesses if they ru
n their af- [t : : : : ; S55a38 o 285 %
- * il that the Prevention of Organised Crime Bill fails ccirrecit{dly." Similagly, tt::re
was r;? coxtltstltl-- 3o R5 : = e gl o gl : N a S B g QÃ© S g gÂ\$585 2 o)
"} had â\200\234serious flaws and draconian provisionsâ\200\235, tutional validity regardin
g the councilâ\200\231s other - Â\$/ " s : ; g s fot e cisE 8, a5as g
% particularly regarding the huge fines its imposed. substantive proposals. i T vl S "/\ KR
" 7,8bn has been COMmltth to pr O_I eCtS Wthh ; :J%g': g & g~ A S:E -â\200\224.Dv Ã©

-~ The portfolio committee rejected 18 of 21 amendments to the tough new anti-gang legislation to address the council's concerns, he said. Any- Ao ; ge y iom local resources R / : TOEG 379928 i .. tion proposed by the council. ;" .â\200\231 way, the various fines mentioned in the bill were ' . : , o â\200\230 Âf > -

% It agreed to three amendments â\200\224 one sub- - â\200\234only a guide for the courts once a person had - % ; g D (a{ e Ly ; â\200\230/--.\ g BXST AL3 SEE59Y o

+ 'stantive and two technical â\200\224 regarding the pro-: â\200\230been found guilty, and act as an upper limit". X Lmda Ensor Zuâ\200\234{ q? exciting.â\200\235 M. d N i og- o o e ST ma = S g5 Dâ\200\224t

" ceeds' of unlawful activities.* â\200\234The . committee - The council requested in December that Man- i c ome â\200\224 : Theg' ta unaided. - \ RESnLER % % o g 0> m

" wanted to allay the council's fears on this matter - ~ dela not sign the bill into law because of â\200\234serious \ bAPE -TOWN â\200\224 A total of R57,8bn had Â° line A ; restructuring of the industry, in 88 ,E,:%â\200\231 50â\200\2313 drBges 8;};; a < ter,â\200\235 chairman Johnny de Lange said... -~ = .~ flaws and draconian provisions which could se- % leen committed to investment in miner- per woquO"gmment s energy whitÃ© pa- 928 55 SFa 3 B 585

% The committee agreed to insert a clause to seriously embarrass government should they be \ a SlPlâ\200\2310lects over the next few years, Min- Labâ\200\231our would be ala Pproaced in n phases. 5, _ R = 8 Â\$g 2 o 3 z o : _

protect, in the words of the council, â\200\234honest people implemented without further consultationâ\200\235. \= Rz;as and Energy : Minister . Pennell discussions. - - #0.be Invoiced n the e 858 2,23 3887 g

: " pleâ\200\235 where they discovered, after acquiring, us- The council described the committeeâ\200\231s decision- FaX Ty a&qna said yesterday. .. - " While sc;v i i e | 258 029 =73 gE gpgsk (@) i

: / _ing or taking possession of property, that the . sion last year to raise the maximum fine, and jail . j } \ / ore projects, with a potential investment- pletely defg'e elntmem Iintended toâ\200\230com:.. BEBea 288 2â\204¢ -3 o

~." property was the proceeds of unlawful activities. . term for racketeering from R10m to R1bn and Âf A Xâ\200\230;ï-\202t of R38bn, were being evaluated. ~ would be legu â\200\234? e the industry, no party | - &5 :9-â\200\231- 2 5 - Sass3 o B

"% It agreed also to insert a clause to clear anyone from 30 years to life imprisonment as radicalâ\200\235, i /fâ\200\230 lout 52% was for primary minerals (21% " tablished- bl kO t he wolvesâ\200\235. Newly es- gRE it 3 Â\$ 3 Â@gd %

- who â\200\234reports his or her suspicion or knowledgeâ\200\235 . and â\200\234based inter alia on hearsayâ\200\235. ' Flefi 80 a?) and the balance for processed minerals helped to beic - companies would â\200\234be ZEFTA @RS g go8 gz o

; when confronted with such a situation. * - . - De Lange said that for many organised crime o O Gexl' %s. Of the R57,8bn already committed, deregulated e t:,rine fully competitive in ag =5 30 S FaÃ© . B 85085 o

' However, the council was not as successful on = bosses â\200\234R1bn is peanuts in today's terms â\200\224 es- e b \l']vas for primary minerals (21% gold) | He could ?v ronment. PR gasa Â\$ g [- BT mÂ\$ 4

â\200\230 .the issue of hefty fines imposed. /. " - .. pecially when one considers what sums of money an â\200\234tB erest for processed minerals. ulation, but sgajde frhime fral{le f or dereg- TR OP a<e PIP=h O"

. â\200\234.i+ The council wrote to President Nelson Mandela are involved in crime syndicatesâ\200\235. Ay X A Y far the greatest proportion of in- to ensure a 25% governmentâ\200\231s target was : a |

.. dela's legal adviser, Fink Haysom, on December 2 The bill was unanimously passed in the par- \ so: ment . will be derived from-local: ipation in the u mea'gngful black partic- Âf5 2 BR3eF5g B3e w

~ saying the bill â\200\234causes honest businesses under liamentary process late last year . De Lange sald g i nx;c?s while only a small fraction will be " tors of the in dustp. and downstream sec- . 2eemacSgd B 8 9B Âf T :

certain conditions to become liable for fines of up Mandela had already signed the bill for enact- fEC 7 N ek oreign sources,â\200\235: Maduna- said in .- Re garding therz pretty soon Tl eSEXB8 75 5e Ta g 5 (@) 3

". to R100m or 30 years in Jail, simply because they ment when it was discovered that it contained - N iy l-;:me'?jt on his departmentâ\200\231s activities.. - bulk of which can? 'uÃ© l'-fc"-lg - SA,.S oil, the | - g2,398% 0 BB D L

" find out after the event that they are in posses- numerous technical errors â\200\224 mainly to do with a8 ga-1 there had been a steady rise in: **said this was a | rtvaf' rom.Iran , Maduna| Bz SomnIgy 2 Â\$ _ =238 3

sion of the proceeds of unlawful activities. This is ~ cross-referencing â\200\224 and it was referred back to : gal mi Omles.tic fixed investment in the lo- - ernment was':-pl]:)a in

es;z_ct?;- matter. Gov- | 59 2â\200\2305 SiRga=2 BERÂ® P
clearly untenable.â\200\235 = .. the committee. : " R6 4b:ei;a lss;gff::l'yt gâ\200\231 0}{
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secretariat, said yesterday l erves fIreuros, Â»he'said. = : _ 5 g8BEpS.5 Bov3d .
Speaking at a conference on - â\200\234:â\200\230A"g.lar'ge%;iij.an;mfgoiï-\201'so;\â\200
\231iâ\200\231g}u,; adjustmentâ\200\235:* Â¢ - ; : : S = - : i
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" monetary policies and faster

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may need new power stations â\200\224

Africaâ\200\231of the euro, the new zone also exists among franco- i
Eu_uropean single currency, Kani phone countries in West Africa. -~ growth can only be a goo
d start |
said the-secretariat would con- It is now tied to the euro since for SADC.â\200\235 - - :]
S O | I l
duct a programme to sensitise- the launch of the European cur- Michael Laidler, the Euro e
%
â\200\234-7 . " pean Commissionâ\200\231s ambassador â\200\231 t ; s o
a nÂ@gative effect on electricitygales) "~

â\200\230member states to the introduc- - rency on January 1.7 * == .
tion of aregional currency. - ~ . Kani- said -globalisation -
.Â« â\200\234These" ideas may be politi- =" would lead the SADC to go

cally sensitive but they will" - beyond current trade liberalisation - the European Union had taken
become inevitable as the world - tion measures towards the har- to monetary union because of
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- | becomes more globalised,â\200\235 he - monisation of macroeconomic differing political
and economic-

HEC said- *There is the political will â\200\234policies, fiscal policy and the ~ backgrounds
:" ~%iimwms . = == "
-.. We are going to put this on the creation of a single southern: â\200\234No magic blueprint is a
veil-

policy agenda. In the coming - African central bank. able,â\200\235 he said. â\200\234It would
be"

months this will be a priority â\200\234The introduction of the wrong to impose monetary

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RISING demand is expected to eliminate
electricity utility Eskomâ\200\231s excess gener-
ating capacity by 2007, according to a
report by the SA National Energy Assoc-
iation, the SA member committee of
the World Energy Council. v
Analysts said Eskom would have to
start looking at building new power sta-

. / The overall sales growth should; |
however, be maintained inâ\200\231the short to .
â\200\230medium term. This wasâ\200\231the result of
" new mineral beneficiation plants such
as Saldanha Steel, increased exports to
neighbouring countries and the electri-
fication programme, among others.*
â\200\234Maximum demand for electricity is
projected to increase to over 30 000MW
. by the year 2000," it said. " = ~ ' ~

There had been significant progress

' to Pretoria, warned against the Robyn Chalmers

- SADC's following the same steps

area for discussion. " euro gives us an example; some- union in southern Africa. There | .
tions in the next year or two due to the
Arand zone exists within the thing to look forward to,â\200\235 he has to be a certain kinetic
c ener- : 7 long lead time and billions of rands in-
Southern African Customs said. â\200\234The advantages of having gy/and frankly there is a lot
t to be involved in constructing new stations. on the electrification programme, driv-
One analyst said Eskom had a num- en largely by Eskom, and about 2,5-mil-
. lion new connections were made be-

done (here) before we can speak
about convergence criteria.â\200\235

-tween 1991 and 1997.

. Thereport said the electricity industry's immediate challenges lay in the need to maintain momentum in the electrification programme and to address the growing financial problems in the

ber of mothballed power stations which could possibly be recommissioned before new capacity was built. The utility also recently started importing power from other African countries such as

The renort said Eskom's significant

a single currency because of

Union of South Africa, Namibia, convergence criteria, fiscal and

Lesotho and Swaziland. A franc

- e KAREN MOOLMAN Source: SA NATIONAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION
quarter of last year had revived the

profitability of marginal gold mines, lower commodity prices and the effect of dampened demand due to the finan-

the severity of poorer economic condi-

tions in SA and the lack of foreknow-

ledge of this in Eskom's planning.

The report said that although the de-

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that the future promises to | += A LT .. What advocates of zero tolerance fail to be safe and secure.â\200\235â\200\231 | S v Ly % . recognise is that New York and South Africa for guidance from nations more like ours, The Minister said this | . " > & 3 are about as alike as footionsgs and boerewors:. . This is not to say South Africa has nothing referred to allthree of the |2~ - - / _ -Both are sausage-shaped meat products, but to learn from the New York experience. What major areas of crime - [fuo Rl / thaESabqu where the similarity ends. , " the NYPD has shown ii is that little crimes do cash heists in Gauteng, [/0 "t o ; 3 / *New York is tohcÃ@ntrated around Manhat~i~\201â\200\230 make a difference, that they create an atmosphere the political violence in f}.0 " " " & T, g et e Â£ tan which sanisland workingwithhmitted p hereoflawlessnessandunpunityi~\202latleadsto KwaZulu-Natal and *) pro iR BN : e o sbace, developets were forced to build up, bigger thin gs. : gansterisin in the Western | oo 0 - = Ã@ = o T e ut. The result is one of th ehlghest - But zero t0leranceisaboutgenerahrlgasus- Câ\200\234g&,ji,e KwaZulu-Natal | } 4 s Eg%Ã@i~\201Ã@â\200\231Ã@â\200\231 Eg g2 T populaï~\201ondehsitiesintheworldâ\200\224eightmll. tained ambience of forder, not just responding ; A | Ty 28 WS, E s BIERE Hon peoi~\202lepack d into an area of 515kumi. * intensively to crises. Bakhecn "â\200\234'fsfâ\200\235r,'â\200\234zd S < By % Â«gEIFtEET . SE #his means the cltyâ\200\231s 38 000 police havea . , In South Africa, zero tolerance coild only duzx(1)ll:tc g }giglbn(:nâ\200\230::ldm;:: . Â@ vE % 8 5 = E 5 E g 9 5"5 S5 8 relatively si nailland mass to patrol, smaller . practically be applied in heavily patrolled glailxs ym enduring flash- |+~ 23 -Â\$@ EE CEERRE g g Â° t thati the Dufban metro area. The isvirtual_ly _urban areas. Usiln% t;:slci~\201:earc;a;1 rse:g:troc:z ;o make point of turbulence, and || - Â£e By & = RÂ°8%<3RÂ¢E5 | 3b0bby0n every strÃ@et corner. j â\200\234sure there are no loiterers e inthdxmi'esï~\202{st this makes a lonely ex- || Â°qse ERE88 58 gRER N NewYorkisalsooneof the wealthiest cities ~ on the Durban beachfront will result in the ception,â\200\235 said Mt || gs 555;" :â\200\231 â\202-dg5as 2oNEE 38 â\200\230'on Earth. T hÃ@ {niÂ¢omes of Americans are not of the country being relatively neglected. Mufamadi. e z gÂ\$ - : Â¥ @ g R = Â\$E 8% . just taxed by thiÃ@ hational government, butby . The zero tolerance approach has the poten- Dealing with cash-in- | - - .â\200\234 T TRk P ENLER SN theirhomestateandcityaswell The hig hin- tial to reinforce a kind of aparï~\202illeid bgt:l}vleen transit heists, he said 44 | ' 8 HHTYOLOHELO HOOp s come, property and sales taxes paid by New those who have access to the police and those murder and robbery units, S 93Â\$ % " &"E <8 â\200\230gtg -S":."E = Yorkers are sufficient to give the New York .- who do not. comprising about 1 000 e 5 B \$5LEQg2Â¥ mB2ye Police Division (NYPD) an annual budget of Whi le private securlty firms and the hew detectives, were treating (i q) - 2 =373 EPEES LT g g8~ b; \$2,4-billion â\200\224 roughly equal to the budget of . municipal police forces ensure that the rich this as an intimate part of | / g 3 â\200\230E'E L Â\$EEPEZ3gas So - the entire South African Police Service. continue to be better protected than the poor,

their mandate. Revid Eg3828Â\$8% 4358+ 5 Âf58 â\200\234In addition to their numbers and dens
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By Brian Stuart

CAPE TOWN. â\200\224 The
- crime situation in South
Africa is â\200\234improvingâ\200\231â\200\231
and the future will be
safe, Safety and
Security Minister Syd-

ney Mufamadi told parliamentary journalists and diplomats yesterday.

â\200\234We are convinced that the initiatives which we have taken ... will correct the initial asymmetry which allowed criminals to go about their enterprise with impunity.

â\200\234A number of indicators are ticking towards improvement.â\200\235â\200\231

Mr Mufamadi said that some â\200\234expertsâ\200\231â\200\231 had not properly analysed the crime statistics.

â\200\234This explains why some of our â\200\230expertsâ\200\231 take issue with us when we predict, on current trends,

15 accused were before the court, including some with other cases pending against them. One was connected to the R18 million Sunnyside robbery, with which Collin Chauke was commonly linked.

Three others were allegedly involved in the R4 million Grayston robbery, two with the R1,7 million Bainsvlei robbery, three with a robbery in Swaziland, and two with escaping from Pretoria Central Prison and attempted murder and attempted robbery.

â\200\234The incidence of cash-in-transit robberies shows a definite decline over the past few years.

â\200\234This can be attributed to the fact that some of the major criminals who had carved out their own niche in cash-in-transit robberies have been neu-

tralised,â\200\235â\200\235 said Mr Mufamadi.

Most of the detectives on the heist cases were among the 1597 detectives who had attended courses and workshops presented by the Detective Academy, which opened in October 1997.

The investigatorsâ\200\231 psychology courses offered at the academy had also assisted detectives in catching notorious serial killers.

These included the killer in Capital Park, with nine victims, the Thohoyandou killer, with nine victims, the Wemmerpan killer, with 50 victims, and the Stewart Wilken case, in which there were 10 victims. _

A new weapon in the police investigative arsenal was a DNA database,

: Future in SA will be safe: Mufamadi

Police Service Forensic

Science Laboratory at the |
forefront of the application of DNA technology to

criminal investigations.

Last year, the laboratory handled about 60 000 | cases, including the cash- |
in-transit robberies.

DNA matching was =~ also being used in the anti-terror drive by the SAPS .

in the Western Cape.
â\200\234This painstaking and patient avenue of investi-

â\200\230gation is achieving results, ; and the first DNA match has been made linking an -

arrested person with a crime scene,â\200\231â\200\235â\200\231 said Mr Mufamadi.

The American FBI, at
the request of the academy, last month presented
a one-day workshop to Western Cape detectives as part of Operation Good Hope.

which placed the SA

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' no matter-how minor respect for the law can -

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nited States, so much so that many depart-
ents require a four-year degree to join the
force.. .

The NYPD drills human rights into the
minds of all recruits, and with a good reason:
the almighty American lawsuit. A police officer
, who abuses a citizen in the US can expect him-
self, his department and the city to be served
with legal papers within 24 hours.

There is an entire community of lawyers
who work for a percentage of whatever their
clients are awarded and who watch every move
- the NYPD makes. g

A strong internal affairs division, under

" direct pressure from elected officials is just -
.the mustard on the pretzel.]

All this means that New Yorkers can afford

to talk about zero tolerance. They can back it

. up by arresting every litterbug and vandal they

come across. They can expect their officers will

style offences such . not misconstrue the tough-guy rhetoric and

Qas mn cy. manhandle the public. .

By either the FAFF-raff off the street, the =
: U identify a criminal when he is arrested
for the umpteenth time, and until

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" human rights become an entrenched part of local
culture, we'd probably be better advised to look

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nt South Africa has the capacity to

be won again.â\200\231

