



**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Hon T Modise MP  
Speaker of the National Assembly  
Parliament of the Republic of South Africa  
P.O. Box 15  
Cape Town  
8000

21 August 2019

Dear Madam Speaker,

**URGENT QUESTION TO THE PRESIDENT FOR ORAL REPLY ON CR17  
PAYMENTS TO CABINET MINISTERS**

In terms of rule 141 of the National Assembly (NA), an urgent question for oral reply may be placed on the Order Paper.

Reports of emails and financial statements have recently revealed that the Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Thembi Siweya, and the Minister of Small Business Development, Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, received sizeable payments from the CR17 campaign before being appointed as Cabinet members by President Cyril Ramaphosa. Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, and Deputy Minister of State Security, Zizi Kodwa, also received payments from Ramaphosa's campaign.

Minister Ntshavheni allegedly used part of the R5 million she received from the CR17 campaign funds to purchase a luxury vehicle and build a mansion in Thohoyandou, while Minister Siweya allegedly benefitted to the tune of R2.3 million while she was around the country campaigning for Ramaphosa to be ANC President. Mbalula and Kodwa were each paid R40 000 according to leaked bank statements, in Mbalula's case allegedly to supplement his salary.

This news broke in the Sunday Independent and City Press on Sunday 18 August while the deadline for written questions submission was yesterday 20 August at 12h00. We were therefore not able to submit a question before the deadline and because this relates directly to the President's constitutional powers that may have been influence, this matter is urgent. It is vital that this question be answered in tomorrow's oral question session in Parliament.

This suggests that the President may have bought the loyalty of Ministers' Ntshavheni and Siweya in order to become ANC and later SA President in exchange for appointing them to his Cabinet. This raises serious questions as to the President's impartiality in appointing

these individuals to his Cabinet and may very well infringe on section 83(b) of the Constitution.

What is before Court is a separate matter and this issue can therefore not be said to be *sub judice*. The President of the RSA v DA & others (664/17) [2018] ZASCA 79 (31 May 2018) showed that an executive decision must be rational and as such, the President must be able to supply rational reasons for the appointment of members of his Cabinet.

Therefore, the President needs to use his first oral question session for the 6<sup>th</sup> Parliament to clarify to the people of South Africa and unequivocally state whether these individuals' payment for work on his campaign is related – in any way whatsoever - to his decision to appointment them as ministers.

I have submitted with this letter the following Oral Question for urgent reply:

*Whether the appointments of Ms K P S Ntshavheni to the position of Minister of Small Business Development, Ms R T Siweya to the position of Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Mr F Mbalula to the position of Minister of Transport and Mr Z Kodwa to the position of Deputy Minister of State Security were informed in any way by the fact that both worked for, and received payment from his CR17 campaign?*

I trust that you will give this request your favourable consideration.

Yours faithfully,



**Mmusi Maimane MP**  
Leader of the Official Opposition