



**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**COMMITTEES SECTION**  
**Portfolio Committee on Trade and Industry**  
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22 July 2021

Mr M Cuthbert, MP

Dear Mr M Cuthbert

**Request for Portfolio Committee Oversight visit to KwaZulu-Natal (KZN)**

**In reference to your letter dated 20 July 2021.**

1. I have noted the content of your letter and equally share your concerns around the impact of the recent unrest, especially on businesses not only in KwaZulu-Natal, but also in the Gauteng province.
2. Although the unrest happened in these two provinces, its economic impact across the country cannot be underestimated.
3. In considering your request to have a committee oversight visit to KZN, I have been informed by the Office of the House Chairperson, no committee would be allowed to undertake any physical oversight to KZN. This is notwithstanding the fact that the Committees on Police and on Defence recently visited the province.
4. The position in KZN remains extremely volatile, and the country is still operating at level four restrictions.
5. However, this does not mean that no oversight can be performed by the Committee in this regard. Therefore, I would like to inform you that I am in the process of writing to the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition to ascertain the following:
  - a. What the current situation is in the two provinces
  - b. Whether the Department and its entities have assessed the extent of the damage to businesses
  - c. What support is being offered to affected businesses, especially manufacturers
  - d. Has the impact on beneficiaries of the DTIC's grants and/or the DFI's loans been assessed? What measures are being put in place to mitigate this?
6. Once I am in receipt of his response, the Committee would be better placed to decide on a course of action, which may include the following:
  - a. Requesting a briefing by the DTIC on the economic impact of the unrest and what measures have been implemented to address this.
  - b. Scheduling a meeting with business stakeholders in Gauteng and KZN to understand the impact on businesses
7. Please note that I share, and so would the majority of the members, your concern around the economic impact as a result of recent unrest in these two provinces.

Yours sincerely,

D Nkosi (Mr), MP

Chairperson: PC on Trade, Industry and Competition