

MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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Concerns on Zuma increasing

“It becomes increasingly apparent why a number of commentators in their Freedom Day discussions put almost all the blame for the country’s woes on the shoulders of Pres. Jacob Zuma,” says Christian Democratic Party leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

“Although we believe things are more complicated than this, the fact that Zuma is implicated in so many controversial matters is of great concern. The latest example being the fate of Adv. Glennis Breytenbach, senior prosecutor with the National Prosecuting Authority.

“Zuma is implicated not only in the case for which she had officially been suspended, but also the case that officially played a role in her suspension. In the ICT / Kumba case, one of Zuma’s son’s is involved with ICT, and in the Mdluli case, it is alleged Zuma intended appointing Lt. Gen. Richard Mdluli as next police chief.

“In the context of the controversial withdrawal of serious charges against Zuma himself, and a cloud of suspicions hanging over the e-toll saga, the government’s insistence on floating the controversial state information act, is suspicious to put it mildly.

“The courts, the latest example being the e-toll, have come out in favour of more openness, but then Zuma himself is leading the pack when it comes to challenging the independence of the courts.

“We congratulate the media for boldly exposing apparent irregularities, but also note with concern how often they are coming under attack.

“The sad thing is that, in a democracy, the people get the government they deserve and that the majority votes for – good or bad. Bad decisions by the electorate can only be tempered by the constitution in a constitutional democracy...but even that is now under attack.

“Is it asking too much when asking the government to be a proper government?”

Kommer oor Zuma neem toe

“Dit word al hoe duideliker waarom ‘n groot aantal kommentators in hul Vryheidsdagontledings byna alle blaam vir dit wat in die land verkeerd loop, op die skouers van pres. Jacob Zuma pak,” sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

“Ons is oortuig daarvan dat die probleme meer kompleks is as dit, maar dit is ‘n bron van kommer oor in hoeveel omstrede kwessies Zuma geïmpliseer word. Die jongste gevalle behels adv. Glynnis Breytenbach, senior aanklaer van die Nasionale Vervolgingsgesag.

“Zuma word nie net geïmpliseer in die saak waarvoor sy amptelik geskors is nie, maar ook in die saak wat na bewering tot haar skorsing gelei het. In die ITC / Kumba-saak is een van Zuma se seuns by ICT betrokke, en in die Mdluli-saak, word beweer dat Zuma lt. genl. Richard Mdluli as volgende polisiehoof in die oog het.

In die konteks daarvan dat ernstige aanklagte teen Zuma self onder omstrede omstandighede teruggetrek is, en die wolk van agterdog oor die e-tol-sage, is die regering se deurdrukkery met die omstrede wetsontwerp op staatsinligting kommerwekkend.

“Die howe, met die e-tol uitspraak as voorbeeld, het ten gunste van groter deursigtigheid uitspraak gelewer, maar Zuma is self voor in die koor in die bevraagtekening of howe so onafhanklik moet wees.

“Ons wens die media geluk met die manier waarop verdagte sake na die oopte gebring word, maar merk met kommer dat die media ook gereeld onder skoot kom.

“In ‘n demokrasie, kry die mense die regering wat hulle verdien of waarvoor die meerderheid stem – goed of sleg. Slegte kieserskeuses word deur die grondwet in ‘n grondwetlike demokrasie getemper maar selfs dit word ook nou bevraagteken.

“Is dit te veel gevra om die regering te versoek om n behoorlike regering moet wees?”