

MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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Agriculture, the ANC government's latest victim?

"There has been a consistent attack by the ANC government on our agricultural sector. This sector is the very life-blood of the nation, as without their produce in our markets, shops and homes everything else is of little consequence," says Rev Theunis Botha, Leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP).

"An agricultural sector producing sufficient food for the nation is absolutely critical. This is, however, made difficult by a government that appears to be going out of its way to create uncertainty amongst those responsible farmers who are the major producers of food.

"Part of the uncertainty created by them is their 'redistribution of land' policy, which has proven to be a total disaster as most of the once productive farms have completely collapsed. Yet in spite of this the ANC government persists with its failed ideology. Another area of concern that is crying out for the serious attention and action of the government is the occurrence, of often gruesome farm murders and attacks.

"Now it is reported that even the food produced by our responsible farmers is being contaminated, as the fields are irrigated with water from badly polluted rivers. The UN has evidently warned the government of the catastrophic consequences this holds for consumers and even our exports appear to be affected. This again is something that can be laid at the door of the government as much of the pollution is due to the lack of proper planning and maintenance by Municipalities, resulting in spills from effluent purifying plants ending up in the rivers."

CDP striem regering oor water vir landbou

"Ons landbousektor loop deurlopend deur onder aanvalle van die ANC-regering. Dié sektor is die lewensbloed van die land, want sonder hul produkte in die winkels en in ons huise sal dit maar mistroostig daaruit sien," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

"Die kritiek-belangrike sektor word egter deurlopend onder druk gehou deur die klimaat van onsekerheid wat die regering skep. Dit gebeur onder meer deur die 'herverdeling van grond-beleid' wat tot die ineeneenstorting van baie suksesvolle boerderye gelei het. Terwyl met hierdie beleid voortgeploeter word, is die regering horende doof oor die plaasaanvalle waar die moorde met uiterste wreedheid gepleeg word.

"Nou word berig dat selfs die kos wat boere produseer besoedel word omdat die landerye uit erg besoedelde riviere besproei word. Die VN waarsku oor die gevolge wat dit vir die verbruiker, en ook uitvoere inhou. Ook dit moet voor die deur van die regering gelê word omdat baie van hierdie besoedeling die gevolg is van swak beplanning en onderhoud deur munisipaliteite wat daartoe lei dat onbehandelde rioolwater in riviere beland."