

MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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Strikes or high treason?

“Murder, vandalism, intimidation and anarchy, attending the present strikes, have more in common with sabotage and high treason than with peaceful protest and strike action, provided for in the Constitution,” says Christian Democratic Party (CDP) leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

“Boeremag members, found guilty of accidentally killing a woman, and of high treason, languish in prison cells while strikers who clearly intend killing people and bringing down the present government order by sabotaging the country’s economy, do so with impunity. What a travesty of justice!

“Firm action is needed to curb this anarchy. According to the constitution a state of emergency may be declared to put an end to disorder, should the government not be able to curb it with the usual means at their disposal. There can be no question that the present anarchy far surpasses mere levels of disorder and need to be addressed in order for law and order to be restored.

“With the liberal provisions of our Constitution, however, it is also not certain whether a state of emergency will have the desired effect and ensure that the government will not abuse the powers given to it. There are strong indications that a third force is involved, whose agenda will be advanced if the country is destabilised.

“The CDP calls on government to wake up and restore order, whilst at the same time making sure that the root causes that have resulted in this situation are addressed.”

Stakings of hoogverraad?

“Moord, vandalisme, intimidasie en anargie wat die huidige stakings kenmerk het meer in gemeen met hoogverraad as met vreedsame en protes waarvoor die grondwet voorsiening maak,” sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

“Sommige van die Boeremaglede is skuldig bevind daaraan dat hulle per abuis ‘n vrou se dood veroorsaak het, maar is aan hoogverraad skuldig bevind en slyt hul dae in die tronk, terwyl stakers wat duidelik mense probeer doodmaak en probeer om die staatsorde omver te werp deur die land se ekonomie te saboteer, kom daarmee weg. Dit maak ‘n klug van die gereg.

“Wat ontbreek is ferm optrede deur die regering om die anargie hok te slaan. Volgens die grondwet kan ‘n noodtoestand verklaar word om wanorde hok te slaan as gewone maatreëls ontoereikend is. Daar kan geen twyfel wees dat die huidige anargie veel erger as wanorde is nie, en wat gestuit moet word om die regstaat te herstel.

“Maar met die liberale bepalings van ons grondwet is dit ook nie so seker dat ‘n verklaarde noodtoestand die nodige byt sal verskaf om wet en orde te herstel nie. Daar is sterk aanduidings dat ‘n derde mag betrokke is, en wie se agenda bevoordeel sal word as die land gedestabiliseer is.

“Ons doen ‘n beroep op die regering om ten minste wet en orde te herstel, en dan onmiddellik die welbekende oorsake van die huidige onluste aan te spreek.”