MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

27 OCTOBER 2012

E-Toll - get rid of ignorant (and lying) ministers

After months and months of concerted public opposition to the e-toll system and a pending court hearing, the ANC government has decided to ride rough shod over public opinion and to arrogantly announce that it intends to go ahead with its implementation.

"On top of this the transport minister announces 'lower' e-tariffs which turns out to be exactly the same as those previously announced," says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP).

"Shortly before reading his mid-term budget, Finance minister Pravin Gordhan lashed out at the media and others stating that they were foul mouthing South Africa and negatively affecting investment possibilities. But what about his cabinet colleagues who contribute to the perception of South Africa as a Mickey Mouse state?"

"Recently the minister of minerals said she did not know of the existence of AMCU until after the Marikana tragedy. It appears that it slipped her mind, that she herself shortly before a meeting with AMCU actually cancelled the meeting. It is unbelievable that a minister responsible for mining should not have taken note of the role AMCU played in the Implats strike at the beginning of the year, which sent the platinum price soaring.

"How on earth could Gordhan expect of South Africans, to be proud of ministers who continue to embarrass them? The list is long, such as the school book crisis and hospitals and clinics in disarray – to name but a few. A fish rots from the head.

"The remedy is quite simple, get a smaller cabinet with good ministers and good advisors. To blame the media and public is not the way to go."

E-tol - Dank onkundige (en liegende) ministers af

Na maande se volgehoue openbare protes teen die e-tolstelsel en 'n komende hofsaak, het die ANC-regering besluit om vuil modderspore oor die openbare mening te trap en op 'n arrogante wyse aangekondig dat voortgegaan word met die implementering.

"Om alles te kroon het die minister van vervoer 'laer' e-toltariewe aangekondig wat geblyk het presies dieselfde te wees as wat voorheen aangekondig is," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

"Kort voor hy sy midtermyn-begroting voorgelees het, het Pravin Gordhan, die minister van finansies na die media en ander gekap wat Suid-Afrika met die teerkwas bydam en so beleggingsmoontlikhede saboteer. Maar wat van sy kabinetskollegas wat die indruk van 'n piesangrepubliek skep?"

"Onlangs het die minister van minerale gesê sy het nie geweet van die bestaan van AMCU nie tot na die Marikana-skietery. Selfs al het dit haar ontgaan dat sy kort voor die tragedie 'n afspraak met AMCU gekanselleer het, is dit ongelooflik dat 'n minister verantwoordelik vir mynwese nie van AMCU se staking by Implats aan die begin van die jaar sou kennis neem nie, wat die platinumprys opgejaag het.

"Hoe op aarde kan Gordhan van Suid-Afrikaners verwag om trots op ministers te wees wat die publiek knaend met donkie-ore probeer toerus.? Die lys is lank, soos die skoolboekkrisis, hospitale en klinieke wat in chaos verval – om maar net 'n paar te noem. 'n Vis vrot immers van die kop af.

"Kry 'n kleiner kabinet met goeie ministers en goeie adviseurs. Om die media en die publiek te blameer is nie die regte koers nie."