



## RULING PARTY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Vuyiso “JJ” Tyhalisisu won as ANC Chair, in the Western Cape Conference.
- Colleen Malatji has been elected as President for the ANC Youth League.
- Sisili Tolashe has been elected as President of ANC Women’s League and has shown her support for President Cyril Ramaphosa.
- Snuki Zikalala has been elected President of the ANC Veterans’ League, who have expressed disapproval of the ANC decision to join coalitions after the 2024 national elections.

## PARLIAMENTARY WORK HIGHLIGHTS:

- **STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS (SCOA) - NA PASSES APPROPRIATION BILL.**
- **NCOP PASSES POSTBANK AND FINANCIAL MATTERS AMENDMENT BILLS**
- **THE SAAFP DISCUSSED HEALTH POLICY AND THE NEED FOR MORE FAMILY PHYSICIANS**

## BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS:

South African Revenue Service (SARS) will impose an excise duty on vaping tobacco products from June 2023.

The Minister of Agriculture intends to expand market access and maintain existing export markets amid geopolitical tensions.

The Council held a Ministerial Retreat to strengthen SACU institutions for successful implementations of projects in industries where the production of fertilizers, agro-chemicals and seeds are needed.

StatsSA released GDP figures, despite 0.4% growth the economy is stagnant due to loadshedding.

The manufacturing sector grew by 1.5% and contributing 0.2% to GDP.

The finance, real estate and business sector grew by 0.6%.

It is reported that white males hold 62% of management positions causing concern to the Minister of Employment.

South Africa hosted the 15th BRICS Summit in August, however Putin did not attend due to war-crime accusations made by the Democratic Alliance.

## SOUTH AFRICA'S ENERGY CRISIS HIGHLIGHTS:

In June, the Minister of Electricity, Kgosiensho Ramokgopa claimed success in address load shedding but this was proven wrong with severe rolling black out schedules.

Eskom and G7 are in a legal dispute over grid access which results in hindering Eskom’s renewal energy plans.

Eskom continues to face challenges in refurbishing generation units while carrying risk of grid collapse on the transmission aspect. There are financial restraints regarding Eskom’s transmission development.

The President reviewed a bill to solve Eskom’s debt:

- The government would write off R184 billion of Eskom’s Debt and,
- Take over the loan portfolio of R70 billion in 2025/26.

Eskom can no longer borrow funds and have to find alternative financial relief.

Eskom’s grid development plan involves seeking support from the private sector while retaining ownership and control.

Eskom has found that they require additional capacity for renewable energy sources.

Moody, the rating agency, says Eskom’s goal to improve its EAF is ambitious but could result in a decrease of loadshedding if it is achieved:

- Operational performance declined with the EAF dropping from 62% to 57% in March 2023.
- Due to the unplanned outages, the EAF dropped to 53% in the beginning of the financial year.