



public works & infrastructure

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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A DEBATE TO RESPOND TO THE 2024 SoNA TAKES PLACE THIS WEEK



Pictures By The GCIS

The Cape Town City Hall will host the two-day debate this week on President Cyril Ramaphosa's **2024 State of the Nation Address (SoNA)**, as well as the President's reply to the debate. During this debate, opposition parties will respond to the President's address while the government defends its record and proposals. The President delivered the 2024 SoNA at the Cape Town City Hall on Thursday, 8 February 2024 in Cape Town, focusing on the successes achieved over the last 30 years of democratic rule.

He said government had transformed the lives of millions of South Africans, providing the necessities of life and creating opportunities that never existed before. The President also said that government had taken steps to address the youth unemployment challenge.

"Three years ago, building on the success of the Expanded Public Works Programme, we launched the Presidential Employment Stimulus. Through this programme, we have created more than 1.7 million work and livelihood opportunities. The number of South Africans in employment increased from 8 million in 1994 to over 16.7 million now," he said.

President Ramaphosa said the country's policies and programmes have, over the course of 30 years, lifted millions of people out of dire poverty. "In 1993, South Africa faced a poverty challenge, with 71.1 percent of its population living in poverty. By 2010, the poverty rate had dropped to 60.9 percent and it continued to decrease, reaching 55.5 percent in 2020, as reported by the World Bank," said the President. He added that today, nearly nine out of every ten households live in a formal dwelling. "At the end of apartheid, only six out of ten people had access to clean drinking water. Today, that figure has increased to nearly nine out of ten South Africans," he said. [click here](#) to access the rest of the **2024 State of the Nation Address**.

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

Through the Presidential Employment Stimulus, we have created more than **1.7 million** work and livelihood opportunities.

President Cyril Ramaphosa

stateofthenation.gov.za

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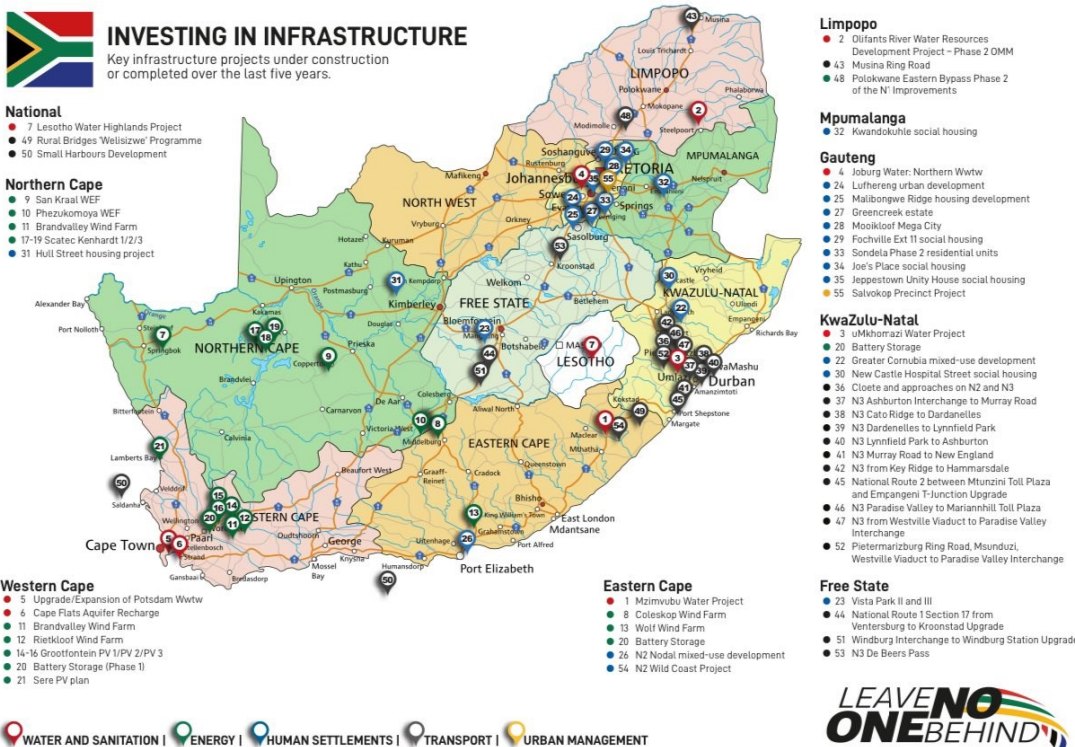
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Call the COVID-19 hotline **0800 029 999**.



DPWI Deputy Minister Ms Bernice Swarts, MP at the Cape Town City Hall on 8 February 2024

Due to ongoing repairs of the National Assembly Chamber, the Cape Town City Hall will also be the venue for Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana's Budget Speech scheduled for later this month. As South Africa is approaching its General elections this year, there will be another SoNA after the elections.

Please [click on the image below](#) to access the 5-year review.



DPWI Minister Mr Sihle Zikalala, MP conducted a walkabout at the Cape Town City Hall before the delivery of the SoNA.

DPWI's Prestige unit led the set up of infrastructure at the City Hall, for the 2024 SoNA.