

# Cabinet purge as Zuma wields late-night axe

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Malema said his party wanted the court to force parliament to institute action against Zuma.

"If the court can become involved in matters like the SA Social Security Agency debacle then it can force parliament to carry out its constitutional mandate," said Malema.

"We ask that the court orders parliament to carry out its constitutional duties."

He said disciplinary proceedings were necessary to get Zuma to account to all South Africans.

"Once that process is started we parliamentarians will remove Zuma through a vote of no confidence."

Section 89 of the constitution says a president can be removed by the National Assembly with a two-thirds majority vote if found to have violated the constitution. A president can also be removed for misconduct or incapacity.

SACP second deputy secretary Solly Mapaila denounced "gangsterism" within the state and said "rogue elements" were busy with "irrelevant" things to "hype up the president's decisions".

"Zuma informed us of his in-

tention to effect a cabinet reshuffle, replacing both the minister and deputy minister of finance.

"We objected," Mapaila said.

He said that although Zuma had the constitutional power to remove Gordhan, he was deployed to his office by the ANC and had to implement ANC mandates.

"The SACP is gravely concerned over the increasing abuse of state security organs and their meddling in daily political life.

"We are aware of a rogue intelligence unit that in our view gathers data illegally, produces false reports and feeds them into the political and public domain to

smear comrades."

Mapaila described Zuma's "Operation Checkmate" report as "nonsense".

"How can you believe that a minister with a delegation of business and trade union leaders organised an investment trip to go and look for people to invest in our country ... is a trip against the country?"

Mapaila said the SACP had written to the inspector-general of intelligence and the state security minister and called for the allegations about the activities of a "rogue" intelligence unit to be investigated. But the complaint was treated "flippantly".

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