

# SHABANGU'S FORK AN' KNIFE SCANDAL

MINISTER of Social Development, Susan Shabangu, spent R116 528 on crockery and cutlery for her office after she took over the department from Bathabile Dlamini, who oversaw the Sassa scandal.

In a written reply to Inkatha Freedom Party MP Liezel van der Merwe, Shabangu confirmed that “Crockery and cutlery amount was procured for R116 528,56. Crockery and cutlery were purchased in compliance with National Treasury regulations.”

Last year the *Daily Maverick* reported Shabangu kept a private office of at least 15 people while regulations prescribed no more than 10. The bloated office cost the department more than R10 million.

Ministers' spending has been in the spotlight in the last few weeks after parliament's standing committee on public accounts (Scopa) revealed that the department of public works had spent half a million rand on braai entertainment areas in ministerial houses, and could offer no explanation for the expense. — Witness Reporter.