

■ NATION

Sweeping changes expected in the new Cabinet

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PRESIDENT Cyril Ramaphosa is expected to make sweeping changes in his Cabinet when he makes the announcement tomorrow.

Ramaphosa has come under pressure to appoint a lean Cabinet and

indications are it will be cut down from 35 to 25 ministers.

The president will name his new executive after being inaugurated today.

The inauguration comes as Public Works Minister Thulas Nxesi said, in a written Parliamentary reply, plans were still afoot to relocate Parliament from

Cape Town to Pretoria.

Nxesi said a site had already been identified to move the national legislature.

However, feasibility studies were still not yet finalised.

The issue of the relocation has been on the cards for many years.

In 2004, former speaker Baleka

Mbete said a study done by a private company had found that the relocation of Parliament would cost more than R2.4 billion.

But Nxesi said further studies were being done on the matter.

Parliament has been the legislative capital for many years, with Pretoria being the administrative capital.

The government has complained that ministers and officials would have to travel between the two cities every week at a huge cost. The National Treasury introduced austerity measures a few years ago and departments were forced to cut back on travel by large delegations and other frills in government.