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by an angel from the "house of souls" where it waits to be born and transferred into the womb of the mother.

The message is simple, do not harm the environment as your body will enter the Earth's bosom. Respect the laws of the Creator as your soul will return to its source of origin and you will be judged. Respect everyone, more so mothers, daughters, sisters and wives as they are gifts and a duty.

To the men, your mother and daughters are vital. Your wife can divorce you and find another husband but your mother is your mother, and your daughters will always be your daughters. We are all in need of forgiveness and mercy, and if we want the Creator's mercy we must be merciful.

**YAGYAH ADAMS** | Cape Town

## De Lille is shielding ministers

AS OUR country faces load shedding, Minister Patricia de Lille has revealed that her department has spent almost R800 000 on diesel to run generators at ministers' houses.

This is over and above the money spent on ostensibly replacing 13

redundant generators on behalf of said ministers, while a further four new generators are in the procurement stage. Nobody needs to be reminded of the dire impact of load shedding on the lives of ordinary South Africans.

And while taxpayers sit in the dark, their hard-earned taxes are being used to fund a darkness-free existence for the very Cabinet responsible for the Eskom crisis. At a time when South Africa lurches from one crisis to another, De Lille's approach means that she is not only shielding the relevant ministers from the impacts of load shedding experienced by the rest of the country, but she is also shielding them from accountability by ignoring my request to provide details of which ministers have benefited from generators and diesel.

Where taxpayers' money is used, we demand transparency regarding that expenditure. The DA will again request the details of the ministers who are the beneficiaries of this load shedding largesse, and should minister De Lille continue to protect them from exposure, we will submit a Promotion of Access to Information request for further particulars.

**SAMANTHA GRAHAM-MARE** | DA spokesperson of public works and infrastructure