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POLITICAL WEEK AHEAD

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Ramaphosa to deliver keynote Women`s Day address

President Cyril Ramaphosa will deliver the keynote address at the Women`s Day national commemorative event at the Khayelitsha rugby stadium on Wednesday.

The presidency said Women`s Month (August) will be commemorated under the theme "Accelerating socioeconomic opportunities for empowerment of women", adding: "Every year, we observe this month to pay tribute to the more than 20,000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on August 9 1956 in protest against pass laws."

Ramaphosa will conclude the first round of the district development model presidential

ambizo in Tsomo in the Chris Hani district in the Eastern Cape on Friday. The model aims to ensure an integrated, district-based approach to service delivery.

DA leader John Steenhuisen will host a public meeting in Phoenix in Durban on Monday to discuss the implications of the Employment Equity Amendment Act. The DA has gone to court for an order declaring the legislation unconstitutional, saying the act seeks to "divide on racial lines and could cost up to 600,000 jobs and put lives and livelihoods on the line."

"South Africans will suffer enormously if we allow these race laws to stand." The law aims to accelerate

transformation in the workplace by putting clear targets in place. The state previously had no real targets as the Employment Equity Act required "reasonable progress" in terms of workplace transformation.

The DA in the Eastern Cape is expected to announce a community-based campaign to rescue the impoverished province from the "destructive and corrupt ANC government".

The DA provincial council will meet in Gqeberha on Monday to assess the party's performance in the province and its readiness for the 2024 elections.

Correctional services commissioner Makgothi Thobakgale is due to announce this week whether former

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20,000 women marched to the Union Buildings on August 9 1956

2021 the year when Jacob Zuma was released on medical parole

president Jacob Zuma must go back to jail after an unlawful parole decision. In July the Constitutional Court issued a ruling effectively confirming that the decision by Thobakgale's predecessor, Arthur Fraser, in September 2021 to grant Zuma medical parole after he had served less than two months was unlawful.

The Sunday Times reports that Thobakgale now has the task of determining what he is "empowered in law" to do: immediately grant Zuma ordinary parole, as Zuma argues he must; or send Zuma back to prison, as the DA says he must.

On Tuesday, parliament's standing committee on public accounts will hold a follow-up meeting with the Passenger Rail

Agency of SA on progress made on the implementation plans by the City of Cape Town, the department of human settlements, National Development Agency and department of public works & infrastructure "on the relocation of illegal dwellers on the railway reserve between Philippi and Langa".

The portfolio committee on forestry, fisheries & the environment will hear responses by the department to submissions on the Climate Change Bill. If passed, the bill will form an integral part of SA's environmental law framework and will have far-reaching effects on all spheres of government and businesses.
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