



**Publication:** The Rep - Main

**Title:** ANC tells students not to give up on education

**Publish date:** 23 Jun 2023

**Page:** 4

**Reach:** 4600

**AVE:**R 16661.70

**Author:** ABONGILE  
SOLUNDWANA

---

# ANC tells students not to give up on education

**ABONGILE SOLUNDWANA**

ANC national executive committee member and public works minister Sihle Zikalala said unemployment should not discourage the youth from pursuing higher education, as it increased the chances of one getting the first preference for job opportunities.

Zikalala was addressing the Chris Hani region's Lesseyton memorial youth month commemoration last Friday.

"The youth must be encouraged. Some people are asking us why are we encouraging young people to study when the educated are unemployed today, but we say if a job opportunity comes, those who are educated have a bigger advantage of getting the job," he said.

He said the best solution was for youth to remain prepared for them to be able to seize opportunities at their disposal, be it for employment or for businesses.

Reflecting on the strides that the ANC government had created, he said youth have the opportunity to study and have a profession in future and to venture into any industry they wanted as entrepreneurs.

He added that the younger generation had benefited from the new democracy as they no longer lived in isolation in a country where the stereotypes of segregation between white and black people existed.

"You could not be a manager before 1994 and be a government running the country. Before 1994, a black person was nothing in SA.

"It took 342 years for the apartheid regime to oppress black people. What the ANC Chris Hani region has done to organise such an event means



**SIHLE ZIKALALA**

the youth must build their talent to be able to and not just sit and do nothing and eventually start using drugs," Zikalala said.

He urged young people to protect themselves against drugs and alcohol, and to refrain from being sex slaves.

Calling on the young generation to defend their freedom, Zikalala said they must prepare themselves for the upcoming elections.

"We must register for us to be able to vote. I am not apologetic about it, there is no political party that will be able to develop SA except the ANC.

"We must be clear on that."

Zikalala indicated that since he relocated to live in Pretoria in March, the metro which was caught in between coalitions and was facing a governing dilemma.

"Pretoria is in a very difficult situation, when the pupils are writing a test they get asked who the mayor of the city of Tshwane is but they cannot answer that question because they sleep with a certain mayor being in power and wake up with another one in place.

"We must not think that there is a solution to coalitions.

"The ANC wants to win on its own and govern all provinces on its own. Let us all get our identity documents and register to vote in the ANC next year," he said.

