



Publication: Mercury - Main

Title: New SIU probe into corruption in the Free State, KZN

Publish date: 26 Feb 2024

Page: 4

Reach: 10610

AVE:R 6398.17

Author: Vernon.pillay

PROCLAMATION

New SIU probe into corruption in the Free State, KZN

VERNON PILLAY

vernon.pillay@inf.co.za

PRESIDENT Cyril Ramaphosa has authorised the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) to probe allegations of corruption in the Free State Department of Public Works, Infrastructure and Human Settlements, the Free State Provincial Legislature and KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport.

The scope of the investigation in the Free State, will probe the procurement and contracting for goods and services that relate to the Ramkraal Project in the Free State.

"The SIU would investigate payments made in a manner that was not transparent or cost-effective; contrary to applicable legislation, and any related unauthorised, irregular, or fruitless and wasteful expenditure".

Maladministration, malpractice, corruption and fraud will be probed.

In terms of the KZN Transport Department, contracts relating to the construction of bridges at the Mngwenya, Umlalazi, Mhlathuze and Phethu River would be investigated.

The proclamation covers allegations of unlawful and improper conduct between June 2016 and February 2024. The investigation will look into allegations that include: serious maladministration; unlawful conduct by state employees; unlawful expenditure of public money; and intentional or negligent loss of public money or damage to public property.