



**PRESS RELEASE  
NO EMBARGO**

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### **AL JAMA-AH EXPECTATIONS FOR BUDGET: millions of South Africans denied their right to clean water**

Al Jama-ah remains concerned over millions of South Africans who need to quench their thirst and cannot turn the tap for water, but still must push wheelbarrows or carry containers on their head as a means of their right to water.

“That harms the dignity of women and smacks of a failed state!” says Al Jama-ah’s leader and Member of Parliament, Hon. Ganief Hendricks.

The party views South Africa’s freedom as fake, if the African child in Maputaputa, Braemar, Mpame village, Harding and thousands of other villages must throw stones at dogs, horses, and cattle to give way so they can quench their thirst or fill their buckets.

Al Jama-ah expects the budget to provide efficient and proper funding which had been absent, to deal with the drought in former Transkei and other parts of the Eastern Cape. We note that not even the financial intervention and grants from Salga helped as Treasury held back using the same excuse of “no money” to find the balance even in a drought scenario.

The Constitution grants **access** only to water and not the **right** to basic services, thereby allowing Treasury to get away with underfunding for life threatening disasters.

The budget should not be a pro-private sector budget, unless until basic services are at a humanitarian level, the private sector at certain profit thresholds must pay the same rate of 50% tax they paid to prop up the apartheid system. This will double revenue, help to reduce debt, and increase grants to incentivise informal traders in townships and on the Cape Flats.

Al Jama-ah wants to see zero based budgeting in all the line items, and no inflated provisions. We anticipate that there will be at least 30% fat in each line item and hope to hear from the Minister how he dealt with this 30% that can be used to fix rural roads and not paving as suggested in the SoNA, the country needs roads.

Treasury will continue to maintain obstacles to our Freedom if it fails to provide sufficient funding for enough and the best investigators and prosecutors. The Minister must declare investigators and prosecutors a scarce skill if some of the current investigators and prosecutors continue not to make the cut.





On macro policy level, there must be a maximum cash holding threshold in all businesses to unleash investment and creation of next generation jobs to digitalise our economy.

It is disappointing that the Minister has gone it alone as he failed to keep his first promise made to leaders of political parties that he will meet with them prior to his delivery of the budget. It is therefore **his** budget and not the **people's** budget!

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