



## **EFF STATEMENT ON THE CRISIS OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

Tuesday, 23 February 2021

The EFF notes the announcement by StatsSA that the unemployment rate increased by 1,7 percentage to 32,5% in the 2020 Fourth Quarter. This means “the number of unemployed persons... increased by 701 000 to 7,2 million compared to the third quarter of 2020.” StatsSA added that “the number of discouraged work-seekers increased by 235 000 (8,7%)” in the same quarter.

This is a catastrophic state of affairs indicating the chronic failure of the government of the day. Unemployment in this country has been an economic pandemic that has characterised South Africa’s reality for over three decades.

These figures reflect poor economic planning, mismanagement and misdiagnosis of economic problems on the part of the ANC, Treasury and its captains of industry. Despite the understandable impact of Covid-19 globally, the reality is that in our country, unemployment has been a permanent nemesis.

The EFF has warned that the neoliberal cognitive dissonance reflected by reliance on markets to create sustainable jobs has failed and will never work. Since 1994, the ANC’s macroeconomic attitude has invested in creating space and relying on white monopoly capital for the resolution of chronic unemployment. Even in the years of sustainable economic growth, unemployment stubbornly remained unreasonably high.

Neoliberal policies have reduced the former liberation movement to a parasitic group managing the common affairs of neo-colonial economic structure.

As a country, we must place blame squarely at the feet of the ANC. The inability to use state power to lead massive industrial development based on labour intensive

initiatives and protection of infant industries. In addition, the over exaggerated and pompous white monopoly capital has proven utterly incapable and most of the times, uninterested in breaking the back of chronic unemployment.

As long as South Africa is led by the ANC and relies on a generally racist white monopoly capital, there will never be a decisive defeat of unemployment and under-industrialisation.

In the whole global history of economic development over the past 300 years, there is no single country, both in the global north and south that has ever broken out of underdeveloped by relying on markets. This is because markets are the theatre of profit and greed driven private cooperations with no interest in coordinated economic action. To break out of chronic unemployment and lead massive industrial development, the country requires a collective plan that should be led by a democratic and corrupt free state which the ANC is uninterested and incapable of.

Unemployment is a pandemic whose vaccine is a total dispense with the ANC. There is nothing Ramaphosa and Mboweni will ever do to help the country break out of this cycle. To overcome, the people of South Africa must remove ANC from power or suffer complete economic degeneration.

**ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

**Vuyani Pambo** (National Spokesperson): 066 082 0889

**Delisile Ngwenya** (National Spokesperson): 066 388 8779

**Sixelise Gcilishe** (National Communications Manager): 071 142 1663

✉ [communications@effonline.org](mailto:communications@effonline.org)

🌐 <http://www.effonline.org>

🐦 @EFFSouthAfrica

📷 @EFFSouthAfrica

📘 Economic Freedom Fighters