



**MEDIA STATEMENT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
2 NOVEMBER 2016**

‘State of Capture’ report is the final nail in Zuma’s coffin

If ever there was a reason for President Jacob Zuma to resign, it is the former Public Protector’s report on state capture.

And if ever there was a time for Zuma to go, it is now.

He cannot hide behind the familiar mantra of “let the law take its course”. Too much damage has been done already.

The “State of Capture” report is replete with examples of highly questionable interactions between the President – and members of his Cabinet – and the Gupta family, and the President can no longer avoid responsibility for the negative impact on our sovereignty. This is a damning indictment on the scale of state capture and the wide-scale abuse of state funds – as well as the central role of the Guptas and the Zumas in this conspiracy.

The report highlights the President’s ethical violations and his failure to effectively and constitutionally protect the integrity of institutions by showing concern for claims that these institutions are being abused. This, from a President who has already been found by the Constitutional Court to have violated his oath of office in relation to Nkandla.

The report further shows that these violations were brought to his attention – including evidence of attempts by the Guptas to subvert constitutional processes. The rules are clear: the President should have acted on the claims from senior government officials, taken them seriously, investigated them and helped safeguard the Constitution. The report shows he failed to do so.

The President must step down. Now.

Zuma and the Guptas must be the subject of serious judicial scrutiny, and soon. The same applies to those who have been complicit in state capture: Eskom board chairperson Ben Ngubane, Eskom CEO Brian Molefe, Presidential son Duduzile Zuma, Ajay Gupta, the Gupta-controlled Tegeta company, Public Enterprises Minister Lynne Brown, four-day finance minister Des van Rooyen and Mineral Resources Minister Mosebenzi Zwane.

Given their role in actively promoting state capture, we also call for the resignation of Brown and Molefe.

Government and the ANC have experienced a humiliating few weeks, as more and more evidence of state capture has emerged in the courts, been tested, and been found to be true.

Alongside this, the mood of the people has become more and more angry.

It is time those in decision-making positions in the ANC recognized this, and showed firm and decisive leadership. This includes ANC Members of Parliament. The ANC leadership has the ability to stop the bleeding, and it should act. It must stop putting the interests of Jacob Zuma before the interests of South Africa.

Our People's Assembly in Pretoria yesterday was just the start of our campaign against the capture of state institutions, and we call on all South Africans to join us in ensuring that the end of the Zuma presidency comes sooner rather than later.

We once again salute those who had the moral courage to testify before the former Public Protector. These include Deputy Finance Minister Mcebisi Jonas, former MP Vytjie Mentor and former GCIS head Themba Maseko.

We welcome the recommendation of a commission of enquiry and have full confidence in the Judge to be appointed by Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng to examine the litany of dubious situations that Zuma and his cohorts found themselves in.

Although the commission would have 180 days to complete its investigation, we would urge it to act quickly once appointed. State capture is rampant, and must be stopped in its tracks.

And in the meantime, we see no valid reason why President Zuma should remain in office. The many, many scandals in which he is mired make him unfit to govern or lead.

Queries: Ntsiki Mpulo 0827827143