



NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS UNION (NPSWU)



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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WESTERN CAPE, CPUT

To: CPUT Workers in General

From: Branch Executive Committee of Shop steward

SUBJECT: BUDGET SPEECH 2019 a MOCKERY IN THE FACE

Date: 22 February 2019

NPSWU at CPUT view the 2019 National Budget Speech, presented by South Africa's Finance Minister Tito Mboweni, as seen by many as a tough balancing act as slap in the face of working class majority and their families. The unanimity among NPSWU at CPUT is that the budget presents a heavy load for consumers as the tax burden rises by R15 billion. The only people who have to carry this R15 million rise is workers and alone must carry that yoke. The budget has only put a smile to those who are already smiling and as for NPSWU is a mockery to the working class in the institutions of higher learning and in general. The bulk of spending is allocated to learning and culture, social development, health and community development. Here are some key climaxes that NPSWU must take you through to

No vicissitudes will be made to personal income tax brackets. The tax-free threshold increases from R78 150 to R79 000. Below-inflation increases in the general fuel levy and RAF levy, as well as an introduction of a carbon tax (from 5 June 2019), will see petrol go up by 29c per litre and diesel by 30c per litre. Excise duty on a 340ml can of beer goes up by 12c. Increase in sin tax will see a pack of 20 cigarettes go up by R1.14. White bread flour, cake flour and sanitary pads will be zero-rated for VAT purposes from 1 April 2019. Sugar tax increases from 2.1c per gram per 100ml above the first 4grams, to 2.21c per gram. The eligible income bands for the employment tax incentive will be increased from 1 March 2019. Gambling tax: proposal of 2012 budget (1% levy) – draft legislation to be introduced in 2019.

Overall tax revenue expected to underperform by R15, 4 billion lower than the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement estimate. The state is encouraging early retirement without penalties, on the other hand in parliament we see every day that it is no longer parliament but OLD AGE HOME. With these OLD people in Parliament the cabinet continues to be bloated. Education remains the highest budget item at R386, 4 billion a year, but yearly our institutions are burnt to ashes and the whole OLD AGE HOME ministers are doing nothing to curb this scourge. Financial support for Eskom will see an expenditure of R69 billion over the next 3 years. NPSWU is no joy to this budget and will never until budget favours working, left has been forgotten in totally. Last year we saw VAT going up and now is a burden to the working class. That is why we were against 6% salary increase, we have prophesied that the OLD AGE HOME will never accommodate working class. In a nutshell this budget is vocal silent to workers and meaningless

Forward to a united working class