



MY DISTRICT TODAY



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State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS



President Jacob Zuma delivered his first State of the Nation Address (SoNA) under the new administration, unpacking the way forward of government in the next five years. The SoNA took place during a joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament; the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces. President Zuma's SoNA was broadcast live on radio and television and 50 public viewing areas.

THIS IS WHAT THE PEOPLE HAD TO SAY:



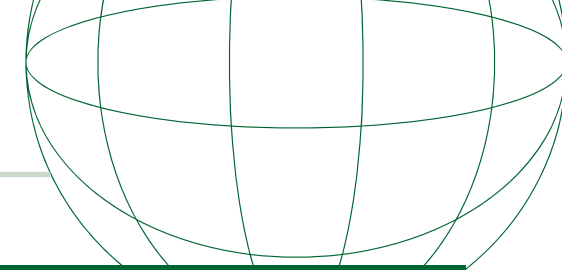
What do you think of the speech?	The speech was good and promising and touched on most important things that I really wanted to hear from the President.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes, since I am unemployed I would like to be empowered through skills development programmes that I will use to provide for myself.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Increased opportunities for youth, skills development through the establishment of more technical centres, delivery of furniture in Eastern Cape schools as well as development programmes aimed at empowering women.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	Improvement and capacity building for municipal administrators as the municipality is the first level that communities use to interact with the Government. Old age pension grant should be reconsidered.
General remarks?	I wish the government could fulfill all the good promises they have made.



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State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Eastern Cape



Vuyani Jili

What do you think of the speech?	The speech made me very happy and it also made me feel proud of the President.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	I think mentioning the municipalities that performed well is going to encourage others to do better in future. I am proud that my municipality was also listed as one of those that have performed well. Projects noted to be executed was also excellent.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	No.
General remarks?	None.



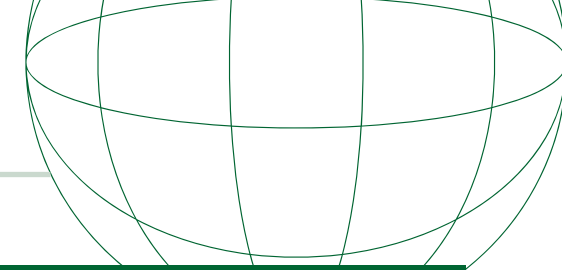
Mzukisi Doro

What do you think of the speech?	The speech gives hope to those of us who reside in the rural areas as the President noted that rural areas will get the necessary attention. This commitment is proof that the government is serious about creating jobs and addressing poverty. The mentioning of Shale gas and windmill projects gives hope for jobs.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes, more than what I expected.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Projects coming to Cacadu, the Shale gas and the windmill gas. The future looks good and jobs will be created to develop communities and better the lives of the people.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	That the ministers responsible for the implementation of these projects speed up the processes. The shortage of teachers should also be addressed.
General remarks?	The speech was great.



Mcedi Keith Mali

What do you think of the speech?	The speech was good work as it reflected on the good work that was done in the past 20 years, especially the renewable energy.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	The President's speech exceeded my expectations.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Initiatives to address poverty, unemployment and inequality. I was happy that my district was noted as one that was performing well and projects that bring hope for a brighter future.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	The HIV/AIDS treatment roll-out much appreciated. Well performing municipalities will challenge others to perform well too. The President did not leave out anything.
General remarks?	The speech was good.



SoNA live-viewing events-Western Cape



Community members attentively watching the SoNA.



RCC Peter Titus with his final remarks just as the President is starting with the SoNA.



Community members from Bongulethu in Oudtshoorn during the SoNA 17 June 2014; live big screen viewing at Oudtshoorn Thusong Service Centre.

State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Eastern Cape



Lindokushe Msi

What do you think of the speech?	The speech was okay and I think people will follow up on issues that the President has mentioned. I also hope the commitments made in the speech will be achieved.
Do you think it addressed the major issues affecting South Africa?	The issue of drugs in schools and the issue of universities and FET colleges that will be built for young people to develop their skills.
What was the highlight of the speech for you?	The government's programme to build schools.
General remarks?	None.



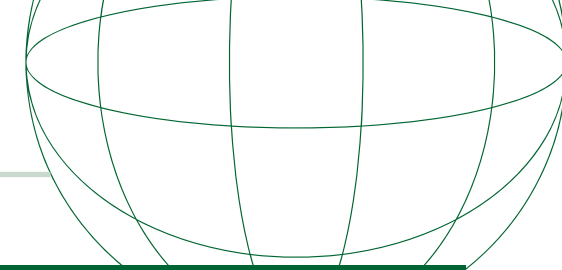
Vumeka Sisilana

What do you think of the speech?	The speech was very encouraging especially to us as young people because it mentioned that the government will deal with drugs in schools and building of schools.
Do you think it addressed the major issues affecting South Africa?	The President has touched the issue of drugs which is a serious challenge in schools and destroys the future of learners.
What was the highlight of the speech for you?	The fact that government will build schools and FET colleges so that young people will get skills and jobs.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	That the ministers responsible for the implementation of these projects speed up the processes. The shortage of teachers should also be addressed.
General remarks?	None.



Nomzi Goodness Mthethwa

What do you think of the speech?	I think the speech has the potential to deal with our challenges because we voted for the government with the hope that our challenges will be solved.
Do you think it addressed the major issues affecting South Africa?	The speech did mention critical issues. The President mentioned water and sanitation and education.
What was the highlight of the speech for you?	Job creation among the youth, especially those that have qualifications but are unemployed.
General remarks?	None.



Attendees at Madelakufa 2 in Tembisa



Zola Sidumo said, "I am happy our government is really on course, he addressed all that affect our country, my highlight was when he said government will accelerate the remaining land for settlement, and we hope one day we will get away from this place with no electricity.



Simon Mlaza said, "It was a brilliant speech, he touched on all major issues affecting our country. What was my highlight is, "embarking on radical social economic transformation as well as revitalising various mining towns.

State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Eastern Cape



Dali Madletyana

What do you think of the speech?	I was expecting the President to talk more about job creation and housing.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes, especially when the President mentioned the plans that were put in place to address the issue of unemployment.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Yes, job creation and skills development plans.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	None.
General remarks?	The speech was good especially for us in the Eastern Cape, most of our challenges will be addressed.

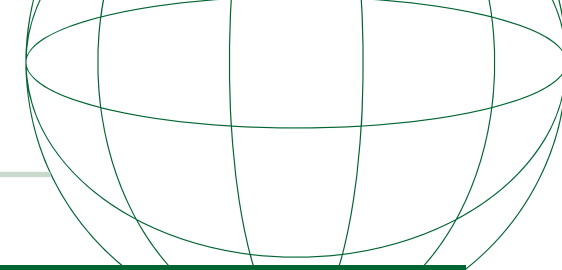


Dyantyi

What do you think of the speech?	I was expecting the President to talk more about job creation.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes, especially when the President mentioned agriculture as one of the key priorities to address unemployment and poverty.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Yes, crime, because it is still a challenge in our country.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	None.
General remarks?	The speech was good especially for us in the Eastern Cape as most of our challenges will be addressed.



What do you think of the speech?	I was expecting the President to talk more about rural development.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes, especially when the President mentioned agriculture as one of the key priorities to address unemployment and poverty.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Yes, the plans in place to reduce the urbanisation, what government will be doing to ensure that people have jobs in the rural areas.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	Not really.
General remarks?	The speech was good especially for us in the as Eastern Cape most of our challenges will be addressed.



NW SONA PVA Big screen events

SoNA live screening in Rekgarathile Secondary Stella Village, Naledi LM, Dr Ruth Mompoti.



State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Eastern Cape



Khuthala

What do you think of the speech?	I was expecting the President to talk more about education and job creation.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes, especially when the President touched on the issue of education and plans put in place to ensure that there is improvement.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Yes, the plans to improve health care as well as job creation.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	None.
General remarks?	The speech was good especially for us in the Eastern Cape as most of our challenges will be addressed.

Free State



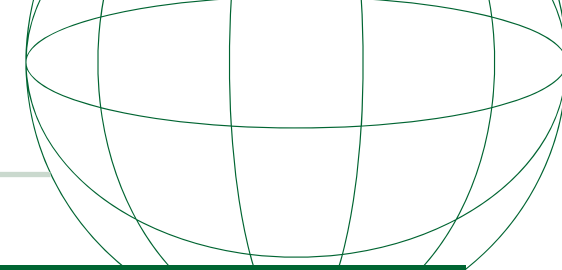
Keletso Mokgothu

What do you think of the speech?	The speech was good and the President addressed some of the issues I expected him to speak about.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	How government is going to address unemployment by increasing intake of interns and putting the economy at centre stage.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	The President did not say how they will resolve the issue at the mines.
General remarks?	None.



Mathews Jankies

What do you think of the speech?	I think the speech was good because the President touched on all important areas that affect the lives of the people.
Did the speech meet your expectation?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked-up during the speech that you would like more information on?	The President mentioned that the national government will eradicate the bucket-system. toilets and the energy system will also improve.
Anything you would like to share with The President after listening to the speech?	That there could be more projects for youth that would do away with the high rate of unemployment, substance abuse and teenage pregnancy.
General remarks?	The viewing of the SoNA speech was a good experience.



State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Free State



SoNA live screening in Rekgarathlile Secondary at Stella Village.



MEC Phosa of the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Planning, introducing stakeholders.



Mcdonald Phangwana

What do you think of the speech?	I am happy that the GCIS brought the big screen for the community of Jacobsdal to view the President's speech.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Partly.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	The creation of jobs. I am very happy that more jobs will be created because there is high rate of unemployment especially in Jacobsdal.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	None.
General remarks?	The idea of viewing the speech live was great but the issue of time should be revisited.



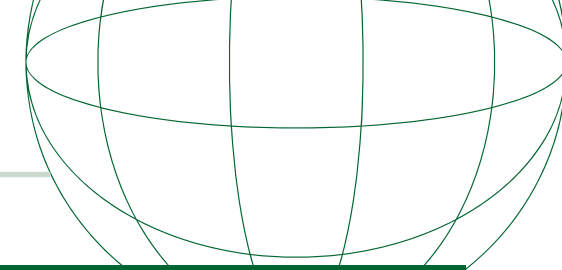
Vuyane Makae

What do you think of the speech?	The big screen was a brilliant idea because it gave us the chance to view the speech that talked about government's plans for the nation.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	The creation of job opportunities for youth and the building of more schools and universities to improve the lives of young people.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	The health department must work together with the police to arrest people who sell ARV pills. Government should also make sure that when they invest in farming, they do so with extra care to avoid situations where the funding ends up in the hands of incompetent people.
General remarks?	I wish in future the time of the speech could be moved to afternoon.



Siphso Mokoena

What do you think of the speech?	Very good and plans were well outlined especially plans that concern unemployed youth. I am happy that the government is planning to do something for unemployed youth and people in the rural areas. I hope all that was said will be delivered by the government.
Did the speech meet your expectation?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	When exactly will the infrastructure development take place in rural areas especially development of roads and building of schools?
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	I am satisfied that the President spoke about education. I also wish the government introduces lots of projects that will empower youth.
General remarks?	I am happy that the government has brought the screen to our village since it would be impossible to watch the speech due to our village not having electricity.



State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Free State



Tshepo Radebe

What do you think of the speech?	Very good and plans were well outlined especially the plans that concern unemployed youth. I am happy that the government is planning to do something for unemployed youth and people in the rural areas.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	When will the infrastructure development take place at the rural areas especially development roads and better school buildings?
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	I want the president to put vivid time frame when planning to do any development.
General remarks?	Satisfied that the government has brought the screen in our village. We are disadvantaged to watch this speech because we don't have electricity.

Limpopo



What do you think of the speech?	I am very disappointed. We as prisoners also voted but the President did not even mention us in his speech.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	No it did not.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	I did not pick up anything as the President did not say anything about us.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	When will I be pardoned and released?
General remarks?	I am not impressed.



What do you think of the speech?	The speech managed to address issues that affect the youth especially on education and youth unemployment.
Did the speech meet your expectation?	As offenders, the speech did not meet our expectations but we just have to accept our situation and change.
Anything interesting that you picked-up during the speech that you would like more information on?	I appreciate that government will intensify the fight against crime especially on drugs as most of us are in prison today due to actions that emanated from drug use. Our brothers and sisters should be safe and not be engaged in drugs and end up like us.
Anything you would like to share with The President after listening to the speech?	When will I be pardoned and released?
General remarks?	The speech was informative.



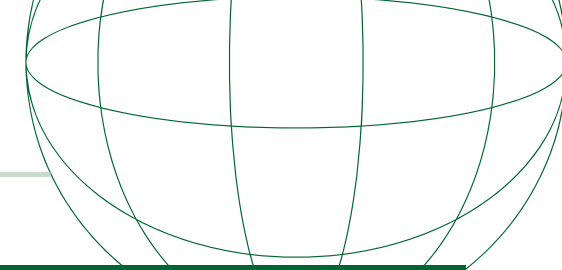
Political Principals at the Thohoyandou viewing site.



MPLs, Cllrs, Centre management and inmates after the President's speech.



Inmates were happy when the President promised to tighten the belt to improve the country's economy.



State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Western Cape



Daphne Boois

What do you think of the speech?	The speech was evenly spread among all issues, however more could be said about making infrastructure available for youth recreation.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	I have been working on the farm since leaving school and as a young person I need more exposure to the outside world, I need more information concerning the issue of the Clanwilliam Dam Project.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	The possibility that government can buy the land currently used by farmers so that local government can provide better services on the land.
General remarks?	As a young person with a Grade 12 certificate, I was not exposed to opportunities that government provides. I need more information about government programmes. There is no recreational facilities for the children of Leipoldtville and we need government to support with projects for the children.



Chrsta Booysen

What do you think of the speech?	The speech must also be presented in Afrikaans so that everybody can understand properly.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	After the explanation of some of the issues in the speech, it was more clear to me.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	The President spoke about cleaning our own towns and houses, meaning that as CWP programme workers, our employment will become permanent.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	That job creation especially for people that already work in government programmes must be made permanent.
General remarks?	None.

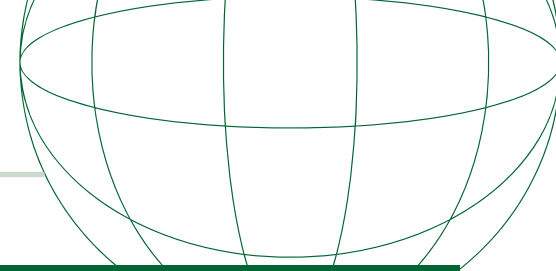


Romeo Ewerts

What do you think of the speech?	Reasonable; the fact that the President mentioned that the youth need skills. The National Development Plan will help to move South Africa forward.
Did the speech meet your expectation?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked-up during the speech that you would like more information on?	The economy is key and needs to enjoy immediate attention.
Anything you would like to share with The President after listening to the speech?	I could not help but notice that youth skills, when it comes to economic development, was never touched in his speech.
General remarks?	Eradication of all mud schools.



MPL Dau encouraging the inmates to follow what President has said.



State of the Nation Address - Live viewing events VOX-POPS

Western Cape



Ayanda Holo, WC Director, addressing the SoNA live viewing attendees.



Salman Thandile

What do you think of the speech?	It was powerful and a nation building event; very interesting and informative.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes, especially the National Development Plan.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	The support to municipalities.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	Planning, monitoring and evaluation system for ministers.
General remarks?	Provision of water and sanitation all over the country.



Osman Shaboodien

What do you think of the speech?	The speech was excellent, the President has covered the important aspects in the five priority areas.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Work opportunities for youth, but where is the GCP on the programme?
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	National Development Plan should be implemented so that it doesn't end up being just an empty promise.
General remarks?	Well done President Zuma and thanks to the GCIS for the opportunity.

Free state



Pre-SoNA exhibition at the GCIS WC office.



Lindiwe Mngomezulu

What do you think of the speech?	The speech was good because the President gave examples of how government will deal with different issues.
Did the speech meet your expectations?	Yes it did meet my expectations.
Anything interesting that you picked up during the speech that you would like more information on?	Health. When the President talked about how the government will address issues of child mortality and creating jobs.
Anything you would like to share with the President after listening to the speech?	Inequality. Unemployment is still high in South Africa and I hope that the president will look into the issue.
General remarks?	I am happy that I was afforded the opportunity to listen to the speech.