

# ELECTION MANIFESTO 2004

## SUMMARY

The focus of the New Labour Party in this manifesto will primarily be on Job Creation, Housing, Poverty Eradication, Income Stability of Households, HIV/AIDS, Moral Regeneration and Community Safety.

This does not mean that we have deliberately excluded other important issues, but is a clear indication of our priorities.

## 1 JOB CREATION

The ANC/NNP/SACP Alliance has failed to create jobs especially for semi and unskilled labour. The ANC's economic policies the past 10 years has resulted in more than 1 million job losses; a contributory factor was the ANC's equity policy which has seriously disadvantaged Coloured people who found it difficult to get jobs.

- As a result of the ANC's "Downsizing and Rightsizing" policies, thousands of **TEACHERS** and **NURSES** were declared super-numery and had to accept voluntary severance packages five years ago. This resulted in the biggest brain drain ever experienced in South Africa, especially amongst the Coloured population of the Western Cape. Our most qualified teachers and nurses actively sought appointments abroad or are sitting despondent and dejected at home.

We must allow these teachers and nurses to apply for posts so that we can again stabilise our education and health departments. Our day hospitals and hospitals are experiencing an acute shortage of well-qualified nurses and service delivery is poor. We need to urgently reverse this trend if we are to win the battle against TB and HIV/AIDS.

The New Labour Party will immediately launch a programme to recruit those teachers and nurses who accepted voluntary severance packages.

- In the Western Cape our **CLOTHING INDUSTRY** was one of the largest employers after Agriculture, but the imports of cheap clothing from the Far East led to thousands of job losses, and many factories shut down.

The New Labour Party intends to retrain and re-skill these workers to improve productivity and to launch a marketing programme intended to make our clothing industry internationally competitive and sustainable. We will also support a buy South Africa Campaign.

- In 1994, both the ANC and the NNP deserted the **CAPE CORPS**. They were not given pensions because they were considered volunteer soldiers and not as part of the permanent defence force. Only APLA, MK and white soldiers were accorded pension and service benefits. Thousands of Coloured ex-servicemen who served this country bravely are now left destitute, unemployed and with no income. Representations made by them to the Minister of Defence have so far delivered no positive results. This, the New Labour Party believes is a grave injustice inflicted by the ANC/NNP/SACP alliance on the Coloured community.

The New Labour Party will address this type of injustice by converting units of the Cape Corps into a “Cape Corps Security” company. The CCS will be contracted to protect our schools, old age homes, hospitals, trains and railway stations.

## **2 POVERTY ERADICATION AND INCOME STABILITY**

The New Labour Party believe that poverty could only be eradicated through the creation of jobs and stabilizing the incomes of households.

- Currently we have no safety net for families who have no income. This has led to broken homes, crime amongst our youth, prostitution and drug dealing, and huge debt problems for municipalities.

The New Labour Party intends to provide a monthly grant of up to R500.00 per household who do not have an income. In return for this at least one member of the household must be prepared to do voluntary duty at a state health institution. Voluntary workers will be under the supervision of hospital staff to assist in the fight against TB and HIV/AIDS. Alternatively, a member of the household may elect to do voluntary cleaning of suburbs under the supervision of local authorities. This kind of programme will contribute to making families productive and cohesive once again.

All accredited volunteers will qualify for free medical treatment and medicine from state hospitals.

- The New Labour Party will as government, negotiate bi-lateral agreements with trade unions and insurance companies to provide an income assurance policy for all workers earning less than R2000.00 per month. The policy would be contributory and will guarantee income for one year in the event of job loss. This will ensure that workers do not accumulate arrears for municipal services, lose their houses and are unable to provide food for their families when declared unemployed.

### 3 REDISTRIBUTION OF STATE OWNED AGRICULTURAL LAND

As a result of the NP's discriminatory land laws, Coloured farmers were denied the right to own agricultural land in South Africa unless neighbouring white farmers gave their consent (something which seldom happened). Prospective Black farmers acquired millions of hectares in the Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Venda, Gazankulu, Qwa Qwa, Lebowa and Kwazulu individually and communally.

Coloured farmers were therefore prevented from farming as a right. Although Coloured people make up 4,2 million of the population they are still the smallest agricultural landowners. In the Western Cape, even though they comprise 60% of the population there are no significant coloured farmers.

The New Labour Party will allocate all State owned agricultural land in the Western Cape on a 75/25 proportion to Coloured and Black farmers. The New Labour Party will also provide state funding for training of potential farmers and other agricultural activities.

In the rest of South Africa all State owned agricultural land should be distributed according to the demographics of a particular province to previously disadvantaged people.

### 4 TRANSFORMATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED LAND

Transformation of privately owned land in South Africa is urgently required to prevent similar situations as in Zimbabwe.

The Group Areas Act of 1966 prevented Coloured and Black ownership of land in areas declared White. These white areas were almost always prime properties and included seafront and business areas. The scrapping of the Group Areas Act and the introduction of democracy in 1994 has not resulted in Coloureds and Black s acquiring these properties in any significant measures. High inflation and speculative pricing have made these properties unaffordable to them.

**The New Labour Party will evaluate all State owned land in previously declared white areas and sell these at 1966 prices to Coloured and Black people.** Development of these plots must still comply with the building standards and regulations for the particular area. A special task team will be established to do the necessary research in this regard.

### 5 HOUSING AND CONTROL OF SQUATTING

- The ANC/NNP/SACP alliance has failed hopelessly to live up to their promises of providing quality housing to Coloured and Black families, and to control and eradicate squatting.
- The New Labour Party will expeditiously identify and service suitable land, and make it available for informal housing. Every

household may make application for free building materials to the value of R1000.00 to erect an informal unit on an allocated 200m\_ erf. At a later stage, state subsidised homes of at least 50m\_ will be built for qualifying tenants on the same erf. This will prevent the illegal occupation of state built homes by persons jumping the queue.

## **6 HIV/AIDS**

The New Labour Party will provide anti-retrovirals to all identified as HIV positive, with financial assistance from organisations such as USAID and UNAID.

We will launch a programme to destigmatise the sickness and seek the support of NGO's, Universities, Schools and faith-based organisations to sensitise people. Young unmarried people will be encouraged to abstain from sex before marriage as a first option in the fight against Aids. Condoms will not be distributed at schools, but will be replaced by information sessions on the dangers of contracting HIV on a regular basis.

Legislation will be introduced to regulate the activities, business and funding of all NGO's. The effectiveness and quality of service of NGO's will be continually monitored to ensure public funds are not wasted.

## **7 STREET CHILDREN**

It is important to note that even after 10 years, the ANC/NNP/SACP alliance has failed to appoint a Child Commissioner. The New Labour Party will immediately appoint a Child Commissioner as provided for in terms of Legislation. The assistance of churches, mosques and other credible agencies, would be sought together with social services, to identify families that could be appointed as foster parents for street children. Children would not be allowed to beg on the streets. In terms of such legislation the Child Commissioner will protect street children through the introduction of rehabilitation programmes and integrating them into a stable family environment.

## **8 MORAL REGENERATION**

Since the introduction of our new constitution and elections in 1994, the new freedoms South Africans achieved, together with a switch to liberal values, has led to unprecedented permissiveness that has shocked the nation.

Abortion on demand, especially for those as young as 14, prostitution, drugs, alcohol abuse and pornography are undermining the moral fibre of our society.

The New Labour Party will resist the promotion or publishing of murder, rape, family violence and pornography in the guise of entertainment, and will sponsor programmes to combat drug and alcohol abuse.

A philosophy of healthy lifestyles based on religious principles, will be propagated at all schools and churches and mosques will be approached to actively promote such projects.

## **9 CRIME PREVENTION**

Crime in general is increasing, and unemployment, poverty, and poor quality housing, are the main contributing factors that requires urgent attention in a holistic manner.

Sub-economic flats have become a breeding ground for gangster activities and crime. The policies of the ANC/NNP/SACP alliance to upgrade these flats, has had no positive effects and has failed miserably.

In conjunction with local government and affected communities the New Labour Party will promote urban renewal through the phasing out of dense sub-economic flats. These will be replaced with quality single residential units with a minimum size of 50m<sup>2</sup>.

Backyard tenants will also receive priority allocation of houses to relieve the pressure on inadequate infrastructure and address numerous health and social issues associated with overcrowding.

The increasing frequency of babies being raped, family murders and hijackings are reaching alarming proportions. It is quite clear that prison sentences, has not led to a reduction in these gruesome crimes.

The New Labour Party will therefore re-introduce the **DEATH PENALTY** for serious crimes such as rape, murder and armed robbery.

The New Labour Party will also fight crime where it occurs most, by installing CCTV and introducing foot patrol policemen supported by reservists.