

Comments

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countless efforts from all! GRN can drive it; but it need everybody's attention, particularly those at the core structures of society, our traditional leaders and various community leaders, our church leaders, political parties and their leaders (though these are the perpetrators of tribalism in some cases), NGOs and key stakeholders in private sectors! I believe if we rally against tribalism the way we did against colonialism/ apartheid and its likes; we can succeed; the advantage is we have the right systems and processes already in place! This include our democratic approaches to governance, our su-

preme law-constitution, affirmative action, etc. These just need to be revisited and unpacked to make sense to grassroot people in their communities.

The problem I see in Namibia is we sometimes can't differentiate between public (natioanl) and political issues and that limit us to implement GRN's programmes. The lines might be blur between the two but we need to make that difference; so that when we address national issues we should no be blinded by our political views!

Though Cde Mensah-Williams has touched on the dominant/minority issue; I think that's another area that need to dealt with. Everybody try to ignore it but we know well how petty issues can turn into anthills! I may not be well informed of the growing grievances among some

circles of the Nama community over representation in leadership positions; but I guess it is good that they express it; they might have a reason to. And as a party we need to study those expressions and hear them out! It's genuine of them to say it in the open than to hide it and do something different as some communities has done or are doing!

The other thing we need to revisit as a party, is the notion of community leadership in relation to party-list system! This is not clear and to an extent, it's causing problems esp. when it comes to constituency leaders and leaders in local authority areas. You have areas where communities feel leaders are imposed on them by the systems/processes used; and on the other sides you have people who de-link them-

selves from their communities through their actions and various practices; hence we sometimes have squabbles in certain places which head office have to intervene, sometimes unsuccessfully!

I guess we need to revisit what a community leader/rep is esp. how they should be chosen to represent such communities. For instance, if by birth, I'm from Outapi constituency, but I reside in Windhoek for most of the days in the year; is it really fair to represent the residents of Outapi constituency? (I'm not talking about after the election; but before a person is nominated) I think their leader should emerge from the community; it should be someone who lives and works there, who knows their daily struggles and someone who can relate with

the people and viceversa without any introduction and motivation whatsoever! A person who is already active in some community activities in one way or another...

◆ Cuana Angula

The first step to getting rid of an ailment is an accurate diagnosis and an admission by the patient that he has something that ails him. Once the diagnosis and admission have been made then a course of treatment is initiated that allows healing to begin. We need to admit that Africans are by nature tribalistic and this in itself is not inherently evil. The majority of Namibians (whites and blacks) are not able or willing to forsake their tribal allegiances, so what do we do with this mind set?

◆ Lydia Aipinge

Cde Cuana, you have a point! it's impossible to forsake tribal allegiances; but it's possible to forsake being tribalistic (Dr Ngurare has given those examples before)! We can achieve that through ongoing and intensified cultural education for the nation to recognise the diversity of our tribal connections while upholding national principles that should unify us as a nation!

◆ Cuana Angula

Let's build a culture of Unfaithful Patriotims among us in Namibia. Patriotism is a strong bond of love for ones country, where each and every citizen is prepared to support and defend a fair constitution. Let's build a nation where the love for country far exceeds love for self, tribe and ancestry. Cde Ngurare, thank you for promoting Patriotism through your page!

◆ Margaret Mensah-Williams

I am so encouraged by all the hon-

est opinions and I believe this is a sign that we all oppose tribalism and need to forge ahead to build a caring nation where we love one another as people and truly live out "UBUNTU" I like my people from Luderitz "they always say the Bucht maak moeg" (the Bucht makes you tired) because they are all just Buchters, my father was born there and they have a certain slang (way of speaking) and I never knew they came from different backgrounds till today, there are all Buchters, Ovambo speaking, herero speaking, nama speaking, tswana speaking, damara speaking, afrikaans speaking BUT the bottom line they are just Buchters and it is very difficult unless you will ask the person which language is his or her mother tongue you will not know, it is such a beautiful "eienskap" (trait) and they support one another, they joke with one another, tease one another and simply love one another, they love that sandy place. The late Anton Lubowski also originated from there and him and Cde Theo-Ben Gurirab used to argue between Luderitz Bucht and Usakos (where Cde Gurirab originates from which town is the biggest and the best, can you imagine that is patriotism,,,,, indeed Cde Conrad we need to be more patriotic citizens. I therefor concur we need to ask the Buchters how they did and still do it and learn from them. VIVA GHANA! VIVA AFRICA! VIVA THE QUARTER FINALS FOR AFRICA IN THE 1ST AFRICAN WORLD CUP!!! We are conquerors let's conquer tribalism. GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND ALL YOUR OPINIONS ARE VALUABLE, I LOVE YOU MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, GOD BLESS!!!!!!

Ministry of Lands and Resettlement



Republic of Namibia

MEDIA RELEASE

LAND TAX ASSESSMENTS- 2009/10

LAND VALUATION AND TAXATION REGULATIONS: AGRICULTURAL (COMMERCIAL) LAND REFORM ACT (ACT NO.6 OF 1995).

The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement wishes to advise the public/land owners that land tax assessments for all ratable (Commercial) agricultural land for the financial year 2009/2010 were dispatched on **22nd June 2010**. The posted assessments are only in respect of those who furnished the Ministry with details of their postal addresses and whose properties are listed on the main valuation roll.

For those landowners who did not furnish the Ministry with their postal addresses, the onus is on them to collect their land tax assessments from the office of the Valuer General, Division of Rating and Taxation, Surveyor General and Deeds Building, 45 Robert Mugabe Avenue, Windhoek in order to settle their land tax accounts on or before **30th September 2010**.

Penalties

If an owner fails to pay any land tax or interest (for late payment) when it is due and payable, the amount owing shall be recovered through court action as provided for under section 21(2) of the Land Valuation and Taxation Regulations 2007 of the Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act 1995 (Act No.6 of 1995) as amended or through other mechanisms such as expropriation. **Those land owners who did not pay up their accounts since 2005 are hereby kindly requested to pay up now.**

Places where payment of land tax can be made

Land tax can be paid at any office of the Receiver of Inland Revenue located at:

- Walvis Bay
- Windhoek
- Oshakati
- Rundu
- Or at any Magistrate Office countrywide

The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement does not receive any payment for land tax. Payment of land tax made via the Post should be sent to: **The Receiver of Inland Revenue, Private Bag 13185, Windhoek.**

Missing addresses

Landowners are reminded that failure to furnish the Ministry with information that has been requested for purposes of land tax attracts upon conviction a very steep fine of up to N\$ 20 000, 00 in accordance with the Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act as amended by Act of 19 of 2003, or imprisonment for

a period of up to five years or both.

Exemptions

Application forms for exemptions to pay land tax by qualifying applicants as stipulated under section 76B (1) of the Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Amendment Act, 2001 for the tax year 2007/8 can be obtained from the office of the Valuer General in Windhoek or from the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement, Regional offices in Mariental, Oshakati, Otjiwarongo, Gobabis, Swakopmund or Keetmanshoop during normal office hours.

The deadline for return of the application forms shall be 17:00 hours Tuesday 31st AUGUST 2010.

Applicants who submit their applications via Post or through the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement Regional offices must make sure that they are posted on time to reach the office of the Valuer General on or before the stipulated deadline of **31st AUGUST 2010**

NO APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER 31st AUGUST 2010 SHALL BE CONSIDERED.

NON-QUALIFYING APPLICATIONS SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Important Dates

Persons liable for payment of land tax should take note of the given dates below and take measures to settle the land tax accounts stated in the notice of assessment.

a) Land tax due date for payment is on or before **30th SEPTEMBER 2010**

b) Deadline for submission of exemption application forms **31st AUGUST 2010**

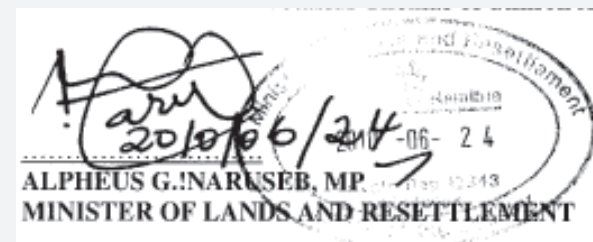
Contact details

Queries

All queries or clarifications regarding the tax should be directed to the office of the Valuer General using the contact detail given below.

1. Directorate of Valuation and Estate Management
Surveyor General Office Building
45 Robert Mugabe Avenue
Tel. 061 2965000, 2965101, 2965030, 2965031, 2965038, 2965065, or 2965042

Contact Persons: **Mr. Protasius Thomas or Simson Angula**



Russia to deliver 50 armored vehicles to Palestinians soon: FM

MOSCOW, — The Russian Foreign Ministry announced Thursday that it will soon send 50 armored vehicles to Palestinian security forces.

"Fifty armored personnel carriers will be delivered to Jordan in days, and subsequently handed to the Palestinian National Security Forces on the West Bank," spokesman Andrei Nesterenko told a press briefing.

Russia initially offered delivery as early as 2005 for the sake of Palestinian internal security, but was turned down by Israel, local media reported. Israel reached agreement with Russia in 2008 on the supply of the armored vehicles for anti-terrorist efforts.

The Russian Defense Ministry earlier expressed readiness to ship the vehicles from the ministry's arsenal with all weapons already removed.

Russia, meanwhile, mulls humanitarian aid to the Palestinians, "primarily to the population of Gaza," Nesterenko said.

"Ten thousand tons of Russian flour were delivered through the World Food Program," the spokesman said.

According to Egypt's MENA

news agency, Egyptian Foreign Ministers Ahmed Abul Gheit and Sergei Lavrov, his Russian counterpart, said Wednesday it was necessary to achieve Palestinian reconciliation and lift the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip.

The foreign ministers also underscored the importance of reactivating the Agreement on Movement and Access of November 2005 to ease the blockade on Gaza imposed in 2007 after the Islamic Hamas movement seized the sea-side territory violently.

Eight Turkish nationals and one Turkish-American were killed and dozens injured when an Israeli special operations team tried to take over their ship, part of a Gaza-bound aid flotilla, on May 31.

The Israeli naval operation aroused criticism from the international community.

However, the Jewish state refused to accept an international investigation of the deadly raid and on June 14 announced the establishment of an internal inquiry panel. (Xinhua)

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