

government's " more efficient tax" is less efficient than the wasteful GST system it has replaced!

But that is not the end of it. The oppressed will have to continue to endure the crime of VAT, including VAT on food. Also in view of the failure of VAT to generate adequate funds for the government there is the strong possibility that the VAT rate will be increased. This means increasing the misery of the people of South Africa.

The VAT saga proves yet again that the rulers in South Africa are totally unfit to rule this country. Together with their whole ruling edifice they need to be overthrown before we can make any progress to a better future.

MODEL C SCHOOLS - THE ONGOING CHARADE

Education is indisputably part of the solution to some of the major problems (unemployment, homelessness, poverty and crime) facing the millions of oppressed people in South Africa. Any genuine and sincere attempt towards remedying this situation by those in power would have to give priority to education for the children of the oppressed. Recent developments have proved that the ruling class has no intention of reversing the decline in education provided for the oppressed.

The government's scheme to convert the majority of "white" public schools to semi-private schools, that is, to the Model C type, is clearly a move to prevent the children of the poor from seeking admission to these schools. The collaborators in the tri-cameral parliament are hatching up similar plans for "Indian" and "Coloured" schools.

The move to turn the white education system into one of subsidised private schools effectively means that the doors of these schools will remain closed to the children of the poorest, most disadvantaged section of the South African population. The high fees, expensive uniforms and transport costs will be affordable only by those that are presently classified "white" and a small group of "black" upper and middle class children. *The formerly racially segregated schooling system is now being segregated on the basis of income, wealth and privilege.* These schools will continue to be generously staffed since the Model C dispensation enables schools to retain more teachers, hence allowing for smaller class groups. The income from

the exorbitant school fees will ensure that the present high standard of equipment and facilities is maintained.

The majority - the oppressed - will go on attending the overcrowded schools in the townships and rural areas and will have to contend with poor facilities, book shortages and inadequately qualified teachers.

We in Apdusa have always maintained that only fundamental political and economic changes will produce real changes in education. *Our demand is contained in Point 3 of the Ten Point Programme of the New Unity Movement which states: "Compulsory, free and uniform education for all children up to matriculation, with free meals, free books and school equipment."*

ANOTHER SACP SHOCKER

In February 1990 FW de Klerk announced to his tricameral circus the unbanning of the ANC, SACP and PAC and the release of Nelson Mandela from prison. On his release Mandela in his first public statement annointed De Klerk with the now notorious title of "man of integrity".

February 1990 is significant because since then the negotiations fraud - the greatest betrayal of the oppressed people this century - between the ANC/SACP and the NATS has moved up a gear. And one of its direct consequences has been the spiralling "political" violence.

Many among the oppressed met the news of the unbanning of organisations and Mandela's release with jubilation. They reasoned, naively, that a solution to their many problems would soon be in sight. Whatever hopes were raised were soon cruelly crushed. By June 1990 forces carefully nurtured by the Nat state machinery were unleashed upon the people in the PWV area. The war of terror that had been conducted against an unarmed populace in Natal since 1985 was extended here in a more intense and just as barbaric form. The method was brutal in the extreme: to bludgeon the oppressed with an unrelenting series of massacres. The purpose was direct: to strip the ANC bare in front of the oppressed; to show the oppressed in no uncertain terms that the ANC was the weaker of the two main negotiating partners. So it is that since February 1990 more than SEVEN THOUSAND (7000) people have been killed in what is cynically called "political violence".