

What Have All The 'Comrades' Done?

I WOULD appreciate it if you will be kind enough to publish my letter in response to the so-called "jobs-for-comrades" campaign that seems to enjoy the support and endorsement of all in the ruling party.

This is a sad day as it comes at a time when progressive countries of the world are striving towards efficiency in all spheres of their economies. Reasons for such moves are simple. Some of the so-called comrades are so incompetent that they cannot make it the labour market. The only way for them to advance is to spearhead such campaigns so that the government (ruling party masters) can elevate them into key positions through nepotism.

What is interesting is to note that the apartheid masters were doing the same and Swapo was opposed to that and we were made to believe that all Namibians should therefore be equal regardless of their social backgrounds, affiliation, colour, etc. Now Swapo wants to do what they accused the apartheid regime of doing. Can someone please tell me the difference? It is a well-known fact that some of the so-called comrades cannot compete for jobs. They are either incompetent or do not have the required qualifications. They want Swapo through this exercise to rescue them. The following examples will substantiate my point:

* TransNamib was headed by a 'Comrade'. Where is he today? The negative legacy that was left behind is that TransNamib is in serious financial difficulties. Another of the so-called comrades has been appointed, hopefully not to finish off the little that has been left.

* Air Namibia was headed by a 'Comrade'. Where is he today? News about the struggling national airline are a common feature in our newspapers. It is very shameful that some people do not want to wake up to smell the coffee. How much has government spent in taxpayers money to finance mismanagement? I do not hold views held by the unions and some cabinet ministers on privatising the airline.

This is not a charity organization.

* Where is the CEO of the Social Security Commission? Is she not a 'Comrade'?

* Why is NDC struggling? What happened to AMCOM? How many people have lost their jobs in the process? What will happen to most NDC employees when the new Development Bank is finally formed?

* I believe the DG of NBC is a 'Comrade'. Why is NBC in the news every day for incompetence and mismanagement?

* We hear of serious cases of corruption at some town councils mostly dominated by the ruling party.

* Some of the youth leaders can only hang onto positions when they manipulate situations for their own good. Why can't they go into the open market and compete for jobs? The answer is simple: They will never make it. They will be total failures.

* What happened to the "famous" DBC. The GM was also a 'Comrade'.

I am really saddened by the way things are being done. Some people seem bent on ruining the little that this country can offer. Economic development comes through hard work, competence and efficiency. We cannot afford dead wood. Why do we seem to support incompetence? This country needs those men and women who can deliver. It does not need people who only know how to read newspapers behind their desks. Some 'comrades' will be appointed in key positions in government and at state-owned enterprises and the result will shock most citizens. Nepotism will be at its height and some ministries and parastatal organisations will become extensions of families, friends and tribesmen. What about the majority of the citizens of this country? They will be excluded just as they were excluded during the apartheid era.

Worried Citizen, Via e-mail

Note: Name and address provided - Ed