

Black demands in the struggle for liberation

Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu and President of Inkatha, has listed the following "time-honoured demands" as the basic and "irrevocable" commitments he would require from the Government before he would be able to become involved in any talks about talks regarding South Africa's constitutional future.

He has made his position clear on this issue in numerous statements during the past two decades — more particularly so in recent years during which time the Government has attempted to co-opt black leaders into its so-called "reform" initiative.

Dr Buthelezi has been unable to consider participating in any of the various

forums put forward by the Government. Some of the reasons will be enumerated elsewhere in this issue. It has been impossible for him to become involved in any talks held *within* the framework of present-day apartheid legislation.

Dr Buthelezi, in a memorandum presented on his behalf to the Interaction Council in Harare, Zimbabwe, in March last year, said: "Abandoning any one of these demands would involve me in forfeiting the mass support I now have in South Africa."

He said these demands were "immutably fixed in the black struggle for liberation" and this was why he had articulated them so repeatedly and campaigned so vigorously for their acceptance.

(1) DR NELSON MANDELA AND OTHER POLITICAL PRISONERS MUST BE RELEASED UNCONDITIONALLY.

(2) BLACK DEMOCRACY MUST BE UNSHACKLED AND ORGANISATIONS BE FREE TO SEEK MASS SUPPORT FOR THEIR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.

(3) THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH AFRICA MUST BE SCRAPPED IN ITS ENTIRETY.

(4) THE POPULATION REGISTRATION ACT, AS THE FUNDAMENTAL ENABLING ACT WHICH MAKES POSSIBLE THE POLITICAL SEPARATION OF RACE GROUPS, MUST BE SCRAPPED.

(5) THE GROUP AREAS ACT MUST BE SCRAPPED.

(6) IT MUST BE RECOGNISED THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS ONE COUNTRY IN WHICH THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE SOVEREIGN PARLIAMENT AND IN WHICH UNIVERSAL ADULT SUFFRAGE DETERMINES WHO SERVES IN THAT PARLIAMENT.

(7) THE NATIONAL PARTY'S CONTENTION THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS A COUNTRY OF MINORITIES IS ABANDONED.