



SAPRA

Fuel price drop brings financial relief

Winter has officially arrived, bringing with it a welcome decline in fuel prices, just in time for the school holidays. Unaudited data from the Central Energy Fund

(CEF) is indicating decreases to fuel prices and significant drops to petrol prices for July

A decrease in fuel prices in July will mark the first time this year that prices have fallen in two consecutive months.

According to the latest unaudited data from the CEF, ULP93 and ULP95 are expected to drop by around R1/litre, while diesel and illuminating paraffin prices are likely to drop by around 30cents/l and 25c/l respectively.

Lebo Ramolahloane, vice chairman SAPRA attributes the price drop to a stronger Rand against the US Dollar and lower Brent Crude Oil prices. This reduction is expected to benefit consumers by making travel and daily activities more affordable. Ramolahloane expressed the retailers' excitement over the opportunity for customers to get more value for their money.

The decrease in fuel prices will not only provide immediate relief to consumers but will also positively impact the economy. Lower commuting costs will increase families' disposable income, boosting local businesses and stimulating the economy. Increased spending on local services and retailers, from dining at restaurants to shopping at convenience stores, will support the community and drive economic growth.

The anticipated rise in forecourt activity at fuel stations offers retailers the chance to showcase additional services and products, leading to increased sales across various segments. Beyond immediate consumer benefits, the lower fuel prices can help curb inflation, stabilise prices for goods and services, and bolster consumer spending, contributing to higher GDP growth.

Ramolahloane emphasises the commitment to ensuring customers receive maximum value for their money, making this holiday season memorable. He encouraged families to enjoy the savings, support local retailers, and fully embrace the holiday period. **a**