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EDITORIAL: No to

tariff hike, yes to competitiveness ■ BL PREMIUM 07 JULY 2023 - 05:00

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Garden for a nearly threefold increase in customs duties on frozen mixed vegetables imported mainly from China.

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Minister of Trade, Industria and Competition Ebrahim Patel at the 5th SA Investment Conference at

Kudos to trade, industry & competition minister Ebrahim Patel

for rejecting an application by frozen foods producer Nature's

the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg. Picture: FREDDY MAVUNDA

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mixed vegetables coming into SA. However, Patel rightly

considered the context of high food prices that affect millions

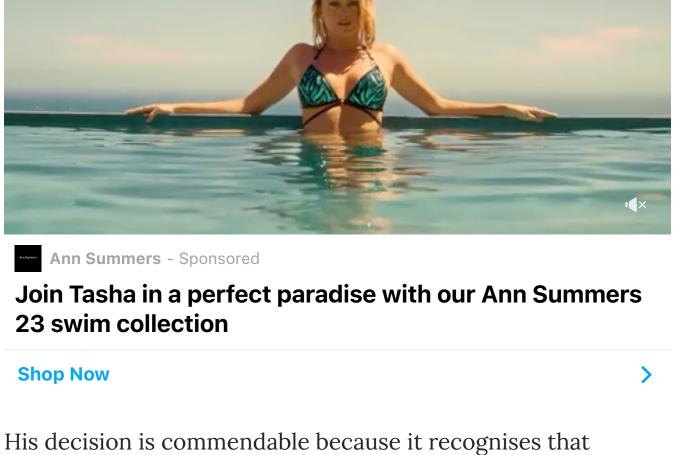
of South Africans already grappling with job losses in a weak

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Nature's Garden argued that local producers were struggling to compete against the low-quality, but competitively priced,

economy. **ADVERTISING**



producers should focus on improving their quality, efficiency and innovation. They should also invest in capacity and skills development to create more jobs and value for the economy. Patel should go further. According to economist Neva

Makgetla's research, the government and International Trade

foodstuffs sharply since 2013. By 2020, the average tariffs on

these foodstuffs were more than 1% higher than the average

tariff on all goods. Poultry and wheat have been particular

Administration Commission have raised tariffs on basic

Instead of seeking protection from foreign competition, local

imposing higher tariffs on imported products is not a

productivity.

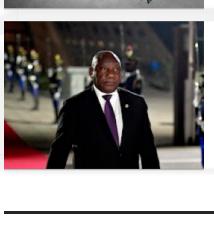
sustainable solution to SA's lack of competitiveness and

targets, and by 2020 tariffs ranged from 50% for poultry and sugar and to 10% for cooking oil. **EDITORIAL: FOCUS ON AFRICAN TRADE NOT BRICS CURRENCY DREAMS** Plans that jeopardise trade should be shelved OPINION 6 days ago

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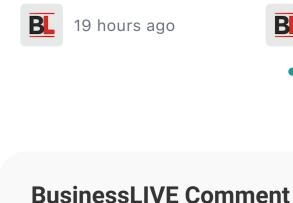
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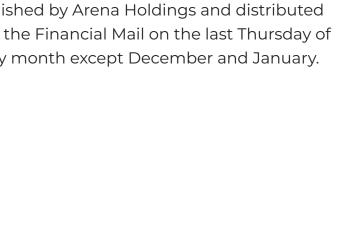
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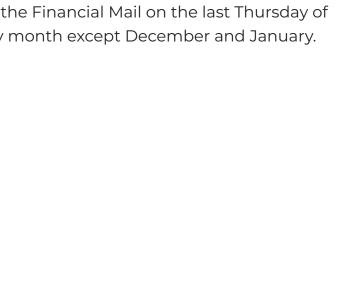
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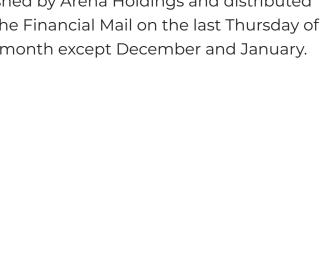
Time limit for delinquent director

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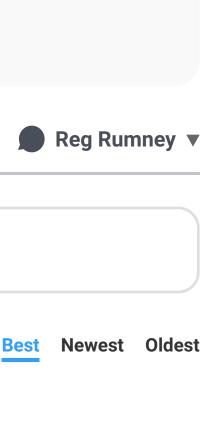






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