

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION PAPER

NOTE:

1. † Indicates translated version of the question.
2. ★ Indicates a question for oral reply.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY**TUESDAY, 17 MARCH 2026****HUMAN SETTLEMENTS***Abandoned/stalled housing projects***★66. Mr T M Kaunda (KwaZulu-Natal: ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:**

Whether there are any currently abandoned and stalled housing projects as a result of (a) contractual disputes, (b) poor performance by contractors, (c) non-payment of contractors by the departments, (d) disruptions by extortionists or (e) any other reasons; if so, what is her department's plans to mitigate such challenges? CO211E

*National housing backlog***★57. Dr I S Scheurkogel (Free State: DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:**

(a) What is the most recent verified figure for national housing backlog as public reports indicated that South Africa's housing backlog remained enormous, (b) how will existing programmes, including the Upgrading of Informal Settlements Programme contribute to reducing such backlog and (c) what are the time frames in this regard? CO202E

*Impact/cost analysis of damages***★68. Mr B S Mabebo (North West: ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:**

Whether her department has conducted any impact and cost analysis of the damages caused by the recent floods in (a) Limpopo, (b) Mpumalanga, (c) Gauteng, (d) Eastern Cape and (e) KwaZulu-Natal; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO213E

*Collaboration with traditional leadership***★53. Mr K Ceza (Mpumalanga: EFF) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:**

- (1) What formal mechanisms of collaboration have been established with traditional leadership structures in Makhado, Nkomazi and Bushbuckridge to ensure meaningful community participation in (a) post-disaster recovery, (b) reconstruction and (c) long-term resilience, following the January 2026 floods that affected housing projects in the said municipalities;
- (2) whether any concrete plans are in place to (a) construct flood-resilient housing and (b) remove households from flood-prone areas, particularly in view of the persistent housing backlog; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether any alternative land has been identified for the development of new settlements for the displaced families; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the precise (i)

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developments and (ii) allocation timeframes, including the provision of bulk services and tenure security and (b) what are the further relevant details? CO198E

Unsustainable Social Relief of Distress Grant

★61. Mr E Nzimande (Gauteng: MKP) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

Whether she is working in collaboration with other Ministers amenable to (a) initiate and influence policy shift from reliance on unsustainable Social Relief of Distress Grant in favour of utilising funds for community-based cooperatives, including provisions of construction materials and strictly regulated uniform prices for building material and ring-fence the market of building Reconstruction and Development Programme and affordable houses only to Community-based Cooperatives (details furnished) and (b) incorporate the preceding policy shift in her Departmental Annual Performance Plans by providing clear, realistic and achievable goals; if not; why not; if so, what are the timelines in this regard? CO206E

Housing infrastructure grants

★69. Mr B S Mabebo (North West: ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

- (1) What is the total amount of housing infrastructure grants that have been returned to the National Treasury as a result of non-spending by (a) each province and (b) all six metropolitan municipalities in the 2024/25 financial year;
- (2) whether her department has any plans to mitigate such non-spending; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO214E

WATER AND SANITATION

Flood damage/cost analysis

★62. Mr T M Kaunda (KwaZulu-Natal: ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether her department has conducted any impact and cost analysis of the damage caused by the recent floods on water and sanitation infrastructure in Limpopo, Mpumalanga and Gauteng; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO207E

Ring-fencing municipal infrastructure grants

★56. Dr I S Scheurkogel (Free State: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

(a) How will her department ensure that municipal infrastructure grants are adequately ring-fenced and utilised specifically for water and sanitation projects, given the statements that 51 projects will be implemented in the Free State and 19 500 serviced sites are being delivered, yet communities continue to experience unreliable and interrupted water supply as a result of municipal water shedding and (b) what (i) accountability and (ii) oversight mechanisms are in place to ensure that all communities, particularly rural and peri-urban settlements receive water and sanitation services? CO201E

*National recovery plan***★64. Mr B S Mabebo (North West: ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

Whether any integrated and coordinated national recovery plan of the funds owed by municipalities to Water Boards is in place; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

CO209E

*Vandalism at water treatment works/reservoirs***★54. Mr K Ceza (Mpumalanga: EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

(1) (a) What are the findings and outcomes of her department's investigation into vandalism that involved copper cable theft at the water treatment works in Nkomazi Local Municipality (details furnished) and (b) to what extent was such identified as a deliberate act of sabotage versus general criminal activity;

(2) whether any individuals and/or entities have been held legally and/or administratively liable for any security breaches at the said facility; if not, why not; if so, (a) what specific criminal and/or disciplinary consequences have been faced by those responsible, (b) what specific measurable and preventive measures have been implemented in conjunction with the municipality to secure (i) water treatment plants and (ii) reservoirs against future vandalism (details furnished) and (c) what urgent interventions have been undertaken to ensure that the infrastructure is fully restored and that the 6000 community members are not subjected to further service delivery interruptions in the current financial year?

CO199E

*Water services authorities interventions***★70. Mr E Nzimande (Gauteng: MKP) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

(a) What interventions have been applied to the 105 water services authorities that were found to be unable to fulfil their responsibilities during the 2024/25 financial year (details furnished), (b) what was the effectiveness of such interventions, (c) what actions will be taken to hold everyone on the value chain who failed to act on early warning signs which led to water supply crisis and (d) what are the further relevant details in this regard?

CO215E

*Amount owed by government departments***★65. Ms K R Molokomme (Limpopo: ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

(1) Whether she will indicate the amount owed by government departments to municipalities for water and sanitation related services in each province; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether any national recovery plans are in place in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

CO210E

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Questions for oral reply transferred for written reply in terms of Rule 228(5):

- ★55. Mr K Ceza (Mpumalanga: EFF)—Water and Sanitation.**
- ★58. Mr P J Swart (Western Cape: DA)—Human Settlements.**
- ★59. Mr P J Swart (Western Cape: DA)—Water and Sanitation.**
- ★60. Ms H S Boshoff (Mpumalanga: DA)—Water and Sanitation.**
- ★63. Ms K R Molokomme (Limpopo: ANC)—Water and Sanitation.**
- ★67. Ms K R Molokomme (Limpopo: ANC)—Human Settlements.**