

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION PAPER

NOTE:

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

Table of Contents

Page

ECONOMICS

Cluster 4B

Minister of Employment and Labour	68, 69
Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	69, 70, 71

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

THURSDAY, 09 OCTOBER 2025

Inhuman/sweatshop conditions in factories

★234. Mr M G Modise (Gauteng: ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

Whether her department has any specific programmes to address the increase in the discovery of inhuman and sweatshop conditions in some factories in the clothing and textile sector; if not, why not; if so, (a) what programmes and (b) what are the further relevant details?

CO1382E

Employment Equity Sectoral Targets

★223. Ms H S Boshoff (Mpumalanga: DA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

In light of the new Employment Equity Sectoral Targets that are currently being challenged in court as they allegedly (a) impose rigid racial quotas on companies and (b) create (i) uncertainty and/or (ii) costs that may destroy small and medium businesses, on what evidence she will support the claim that such quotas will create jobs rather than accelerate job losses, especially in sectors that are already facing retrenchments?

CO1371E

Inspection of employment places

★235. Ms M B Ndlangisa-Nodada (Eastern Cape: ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

Whether her department has enough inspectors to perform inspections of the different employment places as this is the cornerstone of ensuring that employers adhere to labour laws; if not, what plans are in place to address the shortage of inspectors; if so, what are the relevant details?

CO1383E

Employment of illegal immigrants

★220. Mr M K Montwedi (North West: EFF) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

What measures are in place to deal with illegal immigrants that are employed by white commercial farmers in privately-owned farms as cheap labour in their operations? CO1368E

BEE fronting schemes

★219. Ms S M Mokoena (KwaZulu-Natal: MKP) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

What specific measures has she taken in the past three years to detect and/or prosecute cases of fronting such as the ones that have been uncovered by the labour desk of a certain political party (details furnished) which indicated many companies continue to use fronting schemes

to meet Black Economic Empowerment targets on paper while excluding black workers from meaningful ownership, decision-making and profit-sharing and continuing to employ undocumented and/or illegal immigrants? CO1367E

Youth unemployment

★236. Ms M Dhlamini (Free State: ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

What are her department's (a) strategies and/or (b) plans to address youth unemployment as two independent research reports that have been presented by the Nelson Mandela University and the Human Sciences Research Council to the Labour Market Research Seminar in 2024 indicated that youth unemployment has increased despite many interventions? CO1384E

FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Transformation of biodiversity sector

★232. Ms S L Sithole (North West: ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether his department has any programmes that are aimed at transforming biodiversity sector to ensure meaningful and equitable inclusion of (a) rural and/or (b) previously disadvantaged communities as agreed at the Biodiversity Economy and Investment Indaba which was held in March 2024; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO1380E

Foreign fishing vessels

★227. Mr N H Pienaar (Limpopo: DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

(a) How many foreign fishing vessels are currently entering South Africa's sovereign waters without any authorisation each month and (b) what measures his department has implemented to protect our oceans from such ongoing illegal activity? CO1375E

Combating poaching

★230. Ms M Dhlamini (Free State: ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether his department has any strategies to combat poaching along (a) Robben Island and (b) the rest of the coast in the country, given the increase in the number of poaching activities that may have negative impact on the environment; if not, why not; if so, (i) how his department utilises technology to fight poaching and (ii) what are the further relevant details? CO1378E

Environmental/social impacts of chemical spills

★222. Ms M Kennedy (Limpopo: EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) (a) What measures are in place to address (i) environmental and (ii) social impacts of chemical spills that are focusing on environmental protection and (b) what steps has he taken to prevent future incidents;
- (2) whether his department has issued any compliance directive notices to specific municipalities for persistent failures in meeting waste management obligations; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO1370E

Yzerfontein Harbour

★229. Mr H J Van den Berg (Northern Cape: FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) Whether the unproclaimed Yzerfontein fishing harbour is fully compliant with all applicable national laws and regulations that are pertaining to harbour operations and safety; if not, what remedial measures are being planned in this regard; if so, (a) what key details are confirming such compliance and (b) what are the further relevant details;
- (2) whether he has been informed of persistent reports regarding strong tidal currents and waterflows within the harbour that significantly complicate safe launching and retrieval of fishing vessels which appear to stem from structural inefficiencies in the harbour's breakwaters and entrance; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
- (3) whether any official investigations into such hazards and potential engineering solutions have been initiated by his department or in any collaboration with the SA Maritime Safety Authority or the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure; if not, (a) why not and (b) by when will it commence; if so, what are the relevant details of the (i) scope, (ii) timelines, (iii) responsible entities, (iv) preliminary findings and/or (v) proposed interventions;
- (4) whether his department will commit to an open and proactive partnership with the Yzerfontein fishing community, including local stakeholders to urgently address and mitigate dangerous conditions in the harbour; if not, why not; if so, (a) what specific mechanisms are in place in this regard and (b) what is the anticipated timeline for tangible outcomes? CO1377E

Transferred plantations

★233. Mr S P Mabilo (Northern Cape: ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether his department will provide communities with the necessary support that is required to make the transferred plantations by the Commercial Forestry Sector Masterplan which will be productive in the future for the Government to concentrate on (a) policy and regulation and (b) creating an enabling environment for such a sector in order to thrive; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

CO1381E

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

- ★218. Ms S M Mokoena (KwaZulu-Natal: MKP)—Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.
- ★221. Mr M K Montwedi (North West: EFF)—Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.
- ★224. Ms H S Boshoff (Mpumalanga: DA)—Employment and Labour.
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- ★228. Mr N H Pienaar (Limpopo: DA)—Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.
- ★231. Ms M B Ndlangisa-Nodada (Eastern Cape: ANC)—Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.
- ★237. Ms S L Sithole (North West: ANC)—Employment and Labour.