

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates an oral question

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2021

CLUSTER 5: ECONOMICS

★210. Mr E M Buthelezi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

- (1) What are the new plans surrounding Eskom's debt and troubled balance sheet, given the recent announcement of the R130 billion energy deal from the United Nations Climate Change Conference negotiations;
- (2) whether part of the new funding will cover part of Eskom's debt; if not; what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2676E

★245. Ms F E Khumalo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Transport:

In light of the fact that the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa has made numerous commitments to improve the commuter rail service in different parts of the Republic which includes the development of the rail lines and improved security, what progress has been made to date in improving the (a) commuter rail service and infrastructure development and (b) security of the assets?

NO2711E

★226. Mr G K Y Cachalia (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

What (a) steps has he taken to hold the management of Eskom accountable for the persistent failure to fix the electricity crisis and the continued load shedding for the foreseeable future and (b) are the details of the concrete steps that the management of Eskom is taking to ensure that the entity manages the shortfall in electricity generation in the foreseeable future?

NO2692E

★240. Ms P T Mpushe (ANC) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

What are (a) some of the notable achievements that have emanated from the implementation of the Tourism Sector Recovery Plan since the plan was implemented and (b) the intended long-term achievements that can be yielded from the plan after the COVID -19 pandemic?

NO2706E

★243. Mr E F Mathebula (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

In light of the fact that the creation of Infrastructure SA in her department is critical for the implementation of infrastructure development as part of the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan (ERRP), (a) what role is Infrastructure SA playing in the infrastructure development as part of the ERRP and (b) how is the entity going to be funded to effectively carry out its mandate?

NO2709E

★235. Ms S J Graham (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

What (a) number of properties under the custodianship of her department are currently occupied by unlawful occupiers and (b) has she found to have been the impact of such unlawful occupation on her department's ability to utilise the specified properties for their intended purposes?

NO2701E

★213. Ms O M C Maotwe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

Following the announcement by the President of the United States of America on 2 November 2021, that they have a partnership with the United Kingdom and the European Union to invest in helping the Republic transition from coal to renewable energy, (a) what will be the effects of these developments on Eskom going forward and (b) was he and Eskom consulted prior to the announcement?

NO2679E

★247. Ms M L Lubengo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

With regard to the emerging business persons in rural areas, including in sectors of the future such as cannabis, renewable energy and organic farming which have been calling for more support from her department in order to succeed in light of the domination by multi-national companies and monopolies, (a) what plans does her department have in place to support the rural economy and (b) how will her department ensure that black farmers benefit from its programmes?

NO2713E

★254. Mr S H Mbuyane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What (a) measures are in place to support the local manufacturing sector and (b) number of enterprises have been assisted thus far to respond to the need to ramp up local manufacturing in sectors which are key drivers of economic growth and job creation?

NO2720E

★252. Mr N E Dlamini (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

Whether, in light of Transnet Freight Rail's goal of expanding the Port of Durban precinct to the cost of R100 billion in new investment, whilst currently servicing outstanding loans, there is any plan of action in place to simultaneously secure the investment necessary for the expansion of the Port of Durban and repay the outstanding loans without making fiscal accountability more challenging; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the terms and conditions for the repayment of outstanding loans?

NO2718E

★237. Mr T B Mabhena (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:

Whether, with reference to the centralisation of the booking system of the Road Traffic Management Corporation, his department plans to open more driving licence testing centres in Gauteng; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2703E

★214. Ms O M C Maotwe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

In light of Transnet's 2020-21 financial statement which indicates that the entity has lost revenue to the value of over R8 billion, and that they received a qualified audit opinion, what (a) factors has he identified to have transformed Transnet into a loss-making entity in less than two years and (b) plans does he have in place to arrest the declining management standards at the entity?

NO2680E

★239. Mr T D Khalipha (ANC) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

As the first hosts of the African Travel and Tourism Summit that was held from 19 to 21 September 2021, (a) what steps does her department intend to take to ensure that the Republic leads the continent in restoring and improving the state of tourism and (b) how is her department planning to drive more radical transformation of the domestic tourism sector on the back of the resolutions taken at the African Tourism Summit?

NO2705E

★208. Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

Whether, with regard to the R36 million economic relief package which was announced in July in response to COVID-19 and the civil unrest which affected businesses and jobs, his department is aware that there were incidents where businesses were making fraudulent claims; if not, what measures is his department taking to uncover and/or investigate possibilities of fraudulent claims; if so, what were the nature of the specified claims?

NO2674E

★250. Ms C M Phiri (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

- (1) In light of the fact that media reports have indicated that the relationship between management and workers at the newly resuscitated South African Airways (SAA) Group has not been mutually beneficial, especially regarding the issues of salaries, benefits and job cuts, in what way will the SAA Group ensure that its resources are not put at the service of management to the exclusion of the workers;
- (2) whether there are any possibilities for expansion of SAA Group's routes to take advantage of the higher December demand; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2716E

★233. Mr M S F de Freitas (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

(a) What steps has her department taken to attract potential tourists from countries that have and/or still has the Republic listed on tourism red lists and (b) how are the successes and failures in this regard determined by her department?

NO2699E

★241. Mr H G April (ANC) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

What (a) measures has she put in place to ensure that small businesses in the tourism sector in particular are supported as we approach the 4th wave of COVID-19 and (b) funding model is her department putting together that is more sustainable in light of the global and local restrictions of the hard lockdown to curb the spread of COVID-19 that brought the tourism sector to its knees resulting in many businesses shutting down with thousands of employees losing their jobs?

NO2707E

★242. Mr T V Mashele (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

In light of the fact that her department recently announced a 24-month internship programme for 2021 in many different job fields for young graduates, (a) what are the objectives of the programme and (b) how does the programme function in terms of the skilling of young graduates?

NO2708E

★227. Mr G K Y Cachalia (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

With reference to the R8,4 billion loss posted by Transnet for the 2020-21 financial year, what are the reasons that the poor performance of the freight rail sector continues to thwart efforts by miners to export commodities amid a global commodity price boom?

NO2693E

★223. Mrs Y N Yako (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(a) Which rural areas have the Industrial Development Corporation and the National Empowerment Fund focused on over the past five years and (b) what are the successes that the specified entities reported in terms of the long-term growth of emerging black businesses?

NO2689E

★248. Ms C M Phiri (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

In light of the fact that the South African Airways (SAA) Group has announced that Mango will not be part of it anymore, whereas the company has been profitable and has served as a state-owned low-cost airline providing services to working persons at affordable prices until it was hit by COVID-19 lockdown regulations, what (a) were the reasons considered by SAA for excluding Mango from the group and (b) is the Government's position on the matter?

NO2714E

★244. Mr L N Mangcu (ANC) to ask the Minister of Transport:

In light of the fact that the recent unrest by truck drivers due to the different working conditions between South African and foreign truck drivers has indicated the need for legislation and regulation of the sector his department, (a) what does the proposed legislation intend to cover in terms of the critical issues facing the sector and (b) on what date is it envisaged that the legislation will be introduced in Parliament for processing?

NO2710E

★246. Mr F Jacobs (ANC) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

(a) What are the details of support interventions that her department has implemented in the Western Cape in the past eight years and (b) how has her department implemented support measures of township and rural economies in the Western Cape while also promoting the Pick 'n Pay supermarket project?

NO2712E

★236. Ms S J Graham (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

With reference to pages 99 and 100 of the 2020-21 Annual Report of her department, what progress has her department made to categorise and prioritise the (a) 5 640 immovable assets and (b) 1 824 immovable assets under its custodianship which were classified as being in a poor and very poor condition respectively to ensure that they are included in the funded Maintenance Programme of her department?

NO2702E

★219. Ms B Mathulelwa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

(a) What amount has her department made available to assist informal businesses that were affected by the unrest in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal in July 2021 and (b) how has the specified amount been distributed to the informal businesses?

NO2685E

★251. Ms J C N Mkhwanazi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

(a) How does Eskom intend to source funding to jumpstart the transition from coal to new energy technologies and (b) does Eskom have any strategy in place that will insulate it from the unreliability of providing electricity?

NO2717E

★211. Mr K P Sithole (IFP) to ask the Minister of Transport:

During the period from 1 September to 1 November 2021, given the mass movement of persons during the election campaigns, what (a) additional measures were put in place by his department to ensure that social distancing and the relevant COVID-19 protocols were followed on all modes of transport and (b) support was given to the public with regard to personal protective equipment on taxis, trains and buses?

NO2677E

★253. Ms J Hermans (ANC) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What (a) efforts are in place from the Tourism Development and Investment Company to ensure sufficient support to small-scale farmers in a manner that contributes to changing the structure of the market and (b) measures are in place to introduce new players in the market to enhance competition?

NO2719E

★231. Mr J N de Villiers (DA) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

- (1) What total amount of the COVID-19 relief funding scheme's budget was distributed to beneficiaries of her department since its implementation;
- (2) whether she will furnish Mr J N de Villiers with copies of the lists containing all the details of successful and unsuccessful applicants for her department's COVID-19 relief funding schemes?

NO2697E

★255. Mr T V Mashele (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

- (1) Where will the interns on the 24-month internship programme for 2021 be deployed in her department;
- (2) whether, in the many areas in which interns will be hired, her department will ensure that they are given a reference of work experience to become employable in the commercial sector post the internship; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2721E

★249. Mr S N Gumede (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

Whether, ever since the Rheinmetall Denel Munition (RMD) factory in Somerset West, Cape Town, became the subject of discussion after the gas explosion that resulted in the death of eight employees in 2018 and the call by critics for the factory to relocate or shut down following another explosion at the factory on the 31 October 2021, raising questions about RDM's safety culture and protocols once more, the RMD have (a) financial means and (b) human resources at its disposal to improve its capacity to manage explosives safely as well as the environment in Somerset West; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the further relevant details?

NO2715E

★225. Mrs C Phillips (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

Whether she has been informed of the requests to her department submitted by the Rustenburg Local Municipality and the North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to release the unused portions of the farm Boschfontein 268 JQ which is under the custodianship of her department for a new human settlement; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) what is the current status of the requests and (b) by what date will the unused land be transferred to the Rustenburg Local Municipality? NO2691E

★217. Ms A M Siwisa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

- (1) What number of buildings that are owned by her department are unoccupied in KwaZulu-Natal;
- (2) whether there are any plans to release the specified buildings for student accommodation; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2683

★228. Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

Whether her department has plans and/or intends to assist the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality and/or KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government to address the degradation of important tourism attractions in and around Durban which have been severely compromised by sewage spills and pollution; if not, in each case, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NO2694E

★215. Mr M M Chabangu (EFF) to ask the Minister of Transport:

What is the current status of the plans announced by the former Minister of Transport, Mr Sibusiso Ndebele, on 7 March 2011, that the residents of QwaQwa will be given shares in the Maluti Bus Service, in order to make the bus company a community-owned company? NO2681E

★209. Inkosi B N Luthuli (IFP) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

In light of the challenges facing small businesses in townships and rural areas, (a) what initiatives has the Government taken since 1 January 2021 to accelerate the transformation of township and rural economies and (b) to what extent have such measures made it conducive for small businesses to thrive in those areas? NO2675E

★229. Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

(a) What number of tourism stakeholder outreach engagements has she held with community tourism organisations and other local tourism community stakeholders since 5 August 2021 and (b) where did each engagement take place? NO2695E

★230. Mr J N de Villiers (DA) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

What total (a) number of beneficiaries received financial support from the Spaza Shops and General Dealers Support Scheme from her department since its implementation and (b) amount has been paid out to the specified beneficiaries to date? NO2696E

★216. Mr M M Chabangu (EFF) to ask the Minister of Transport:

What (a) are the reasons that his department stalled the bus rapid transport system in Bloemfontein and (b) plans does his department have in place to revive the specified project?

NO2682E

★232. Mrs M B Hicklin (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

Whether, with reference to her reply to question 2125 on 18 October 2021, she intends to intervene and assist the Council for the Built Environment to stabilise its leadership deficit; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2698E

★220. Ms B Mathulelwa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

Whether she has had any engagements with the City of Cape Town to persuade them to relax some of their bylaws which make it difficult for hawkers to trade in city center; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2686E

★207. Inkosi B N Luthuli (IFP) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

Whether, in light of the burden faced by small businesses from the effects of the pandemic and worsened by the recent riots, especially in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng, she intends to boost the entrepreneurial resilience of small businesses in order to prepare them for similar events in future; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2320E

★234. Mr M S F de Freitas (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

What steps has her department taken to (a) comply with the judgement of the Supreme Court of Appeal in *Afriforum NPC v Minister of Tourism and Others; Solidarity Trade Union v Minister of Small Business Development and Others* (499/2020 and 498/2020) [2021] ZASCA 121 delivered on 22 September 2021 and (b) create opportunities for those applicants who were previously excluded to re-apply for relief funding?

NO2700E

★238. Mr T B Mabhena (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:

(1) Whether the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) and/or his department have been informed of the extreme overcrowding of the passenger rail service on the Naledi-Johannesburg Park Station line; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,

(2) whether Prasa intends to introduce more trains on the specified line to address the extreme overcrowding; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2704E

★221. Mr P G Moteka (EFF) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

What plans are in place to open the tourism industry completely in the Republic, following the complete collapse of COVID-19 regulations leading up to the local government elections of 2021?

NO2687E

★224. Mrs Y N Yako (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What interventions has his department made to ensure the tracking and elimination of illegal online gambling in the Republic? NO2690E

★206. Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(1) Whether he has commissioned an assessment of the business sentiment the deployment of members of the SA National Defence Force across the Republic may have, particularly in areas of doing business like malls where it sends a message of political instability and lack of business confidence in the country that will obviously attract negative sentiments among role players in international trade and industry who are interested in doing business in the Republic; if not, what are the reasons that it was not considered necessary to undertake such an assessment prior to the deployment; if so; what are the relevant details;

(2) whether the Government has taken any steps to manage and mitigate perceptions of instability in the Republic that might affect international trade and investment; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2318E

★218. Ms A M Siwisa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

What are the long-term plans of her department regarding the deteriorating condition of the houses at the Acacia Park Parliamentary village? NO2684E

★212. Mr K P Sithole (IFP) to ask the Minister of Transport:

Whether, in light of the recent Huawei Connect 2021: Transportation Summit that took place on 12 October at Huawei's Sandton offices, of which the theme was Dive into Digital, specifically aimed at the digital transformation of the Republic's rail, port, aviation and road sectors, and given the existing challenges in the listed sectors, his department has a plan to address the call for digitisation within the next five years in order to ensure that transport is a catalyst for economic growth through smart infrastructure, integration and technology; if not, why not; if so, what are the full, relevant details? NO2678E