

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates a question for oral reply.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2020

CLUSTER 5: ECONOMICS

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

Whether his department has a system in place that monitors and evaluates compliance with Covid-19 regulations within the taxi industry; if not, why not; if so, what are the full, relevant details? NO3118E

★516. Mr P Van Staden (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

With regard to the refurbishment of Acacia Park, Pelican Park and Laboria Park Parliamentary villages, what (a) is the name of each company that was awarded a tender to complete the project and (b) is the total cost of the refurbishment? NO3263E

★522. Ms M M Ramadwa (ANC) to ask the Minister of Transport:

Whether he has put plans in place to move the freight of goods from road to rail to enable further road development rather than frequent maintenance of the existing road network; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO3269E

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

In light of the dire financial and operational situation of the SA Airways (SAA), what (a) are the details of the various expressions of interest received from potential private equity partners to date and (b) assurances have been sought in this regard in terms of SAA's debt, management and labour conditionalities? NO3287E

★500. Mr W M Thring (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

Whether, with reference to the recent visit by the Portfolio Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure to the Kosi Bay RSA/Mozambique borderline which revealed that the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government allocated a project mandated by her department to the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport without a memorandum of agreement and/or environmental impact assessment in place, and given that an amount of R48 764 303 has been spent on a Jersey Barrier wall that was supposed to be 8 km long in phase 1 of which only about 200 m was completed by 10 October 2020, any consequence management steps will be taken in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what steps? NO3116E

★523. Ms P T Mantashe (ANC) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What other measures will he put in place to further advance localisation, re-industrialisation and export promotion as part of the economic recovery plan in addition to the current interventions by his department? NO3270E

★517. Ms L N Mjobo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

With regard to the economic recovery plan which is predicated on infrastructure development that was announced by the President, Mr M C Ramaphosa, (a) in which areas of the infrastructure plan will her department contribute to the economic recovery plan and (b) how will this enhance job creation from marginalised communities? NO3264E

★545. Mr M J Cuthbert (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What are the details of the (a) steps that he is taking regarding the National Lotteries Commission for managing to account only for R32 million of its R150 million Covid-19 Relief Fund in the meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Trade, Industry and Competition on 2 September 2020 and (b) current status of the fund? NO3292E

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

(1) Whether he was informed of the amount of R350 000 that had been paid by a certain law firm contracted to Transnet (name furnished), to a certain person (name and details furnished); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,

- (2) whether he has found the specified payment to be irregular and corrupt; if not, why not; if so, what steps has he taken in this regard? NO3120E

★535. Ms M M Gomba (ANC) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

(a) What has been the response of domestic tourists to her department's Tourism and Rural Development campaign to revive the local tourism industry, which suffered losses of R68 billion in revenue since the beginning of the lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19 and (b) how is the recovery impacting small and rural towns? NO3282E

★529. Adv L K B Mpumlwana (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

- (1) With most of the global trade being done through maritime shipping, what are the details of the measures that Transnet SOC Ltd has put in place to ensure that its port system sustains and/or develops its role as an integral part of global maritime connectivity network to support the economic development of the Republic and the continent;
- (2) what does he envisage will be the contribution of Transnet SOC Ltd to the realisation of the Republic's Economic Recovery Plan as announced by the President, Mr M C Ramaphosa, on 21 October 2020, in view of the enormous impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on the Republic's economy and the livelihood of the persons? NO3276E

★534. Ms V S Siwela (ANC) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

In view of her department and its entities having utilised technology intensively during the lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19 to provide support and services to small businesses, how will her department further enhance its services through the use of technology to provide support and services to small businesses going forward?

NO3281E

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

With reference to the Memorandum of Agreement signed between the National Treasury, Development Bank of Southern Africa and Infrastructure South Africa (ISA), what are the details of (a) how the ISA is structured and (b) the roles that each department and/or entity involved plays in the structure and organisation of the ISA?

NO3297E

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

Whether, with reference to the statement made by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Eskom, that the future of energy in the Republic lies with renewable energy independent power producers (IPPs) and that Eskom must depend on the IPPs for sustainable energy security, the Eskom CEO has ever presented alternatives that do not require Eskom to depend on costly power purchase agreements; if not, why not; if so, (a) where and (b) on what date were the specified alternatives presented? NO3121E

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

With regard to the Covid-19 quarantine sites that were created by her department in conjunction with the Department of Health, what is the (a) status and (b) usage of the sites in the context of the current second wave of Covid-19 affecting many countries and the increase in infections in the Republic?

NO3265E

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

Since the ease of the Covid-19 lockdown regulations to alert level 1, what (a) is the status of the backlog in the issuing of driving licence cards and (b) plans has his department put in place to ease the specified backlogs?

NO3119E

★519. Ms L F Shabalala (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

How will her department utilise the Extended Public Works Programme to (a) provide more skills by employing unemployed persons in the Republic and (b) contribute to the alleviation of poverty and unemployment given the plight faced by many in adverse economic circumstances?

NO3266E

★539. Mr C H H Hunsinger (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:

Whether he has any plans in place to address the unprecedented backlog in his department's National Road Maintenance Programme; if not, why not; if so, what are the details of the plans to address the specified backlog, including how the different spheres of government will be co-ordinated to address the backlog, given that more than 90% of all land cargo is transported by road?

NO3286E

★537. Mr W M Thring (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

Whether, with reference to the recent visit by the Portfolio Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure to the borderline between the Republic and Mozambique at Kosi Bay on 9 to 11 October 2020, any consequence management steps are going to be taken in respect of the Jersey barrier wall that was supposed to be 8km long for phase 1, but of which only about 200m was completed by 10 October 2020 (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, what steps?

NO3284E

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

With regard to the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa being placed under administration, how will this assist in the implementation of Government's infrastructure development plan of expanding and improving the commuter rail service as outlined by the President, Mr M C Ramaphosa, in the State of the Nation Address on 13 February 2020?

NO3267E

★521. Mr L E McDonald (ANC) to ask the Minister of Transport:

(a) What plans has his department put in place to curtail the criminal destruction of the rail network and (b) which rail infrastructure development projects did he prioritise for commuter transport?

NO3268E

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

With reference to the devastating impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on the tourism industry, what (a) steps is her department taking to curb job losses in the tourism industry and (b) financial assistance is her department making available to the industry, besides the Tourism Relief Fund and the Tour Guide Relief Fund?

NO3290E

★505. Mrs N J Nolutshungu (EFF) to ask the Minister of Transport:

What total amount has a certain company (name and details furnished) been paid to implement the e-toll system?

NO3122E

★524. Ms N E Motaung (ANC) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What interventions will his department make to revive the manufacturing sector, especially the steel sector, which has contracted by 74,9% according to the Gross Domestic Product figures released by Statistics South Africa for the 2nd Quarter of 2020?

NO3271E

★525. Mrs R M Moatshe (ANC) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

In view of the President of the Republic, Mr M C Ramaphosa, in the State of the Nation Address on 7 February 2019 enjoining the Government to put measures in place to improve the Ease-of-Doing Business rankings of the Republic, what (a) steps has his department taken to improve the Republic's rankings and (b) are the relevant details of the achievements in this regard?

NO3272E

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

In view of the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent nationwide lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19 that disrupted socio-economic activities, including the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area, what is the status of developments with regard to economic diplomacy and the economic integration of the continent?

NO3273E

★538. Mr C H H Hunsinger (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:

(a) Which entities reporting to him received qualified financial performance audit opinions in the past three financial years and (b) what steps has he taken to address the continued poor financial performance of the specified entities?

NO3285E

★506. Mrs N J Nolutshungu (EFF) to ask the Minister of Transport:

What (a) total number of contracts at the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa were given to persons by virtue of their relations with uMkhonto we Sizwe veterans and (b) was the total Rand value of the specified contracts?

NO3123E

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

In light of the fact that the restructuring and continued functioning of SA Airways (SAA) is part of the Government's plan to bring the difficult business rescue process to a conclusion, (a) what is the economic benefit to the Republic of the continued functioning of the national carrier and (b) how will the restructured SAA assist in the Republic's economic recovery and job creation?

NO3274E

★514. Mr M N Nxumalo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

- (1) What are the relevant details of the process of Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) in her department;
- (2) whether ISA replaces the Independent Development Trust in any way; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO3133E

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

What are the details of the (a) progress that has been made at Eskom to achieve governance, operational and financial stability, against the backdrop of the critical developments of unbundling the entity into generation, transmission and distribution components and (b) challenges that still require resolution?

NO3275E

★541. Mr H S Gumbi (DA) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

Whether she and/or her department has met with the boards of any airlines since the reopening of the Republic's borders to international travellers; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details of the discussions and agreements reached in each case?

NO3288E

★552. Rev K R J Meshoe (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Transport:

- (1) Whether the Government has a plan in place to stop the vandalism of the transport infrastructure, particularly railway infrastructure; if not; why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether the plans include severe penalties for perpetrators which includes the paying back of costs to replace and/or repair damaged infrastructure; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO3299E

★530. Ms K B Thlomelang (ANC) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

With the empowerment of women being at the centre of the economic transformation agenda, what are the details of the programmes that her department has put in place to further empower women in the small business sector?

NO3277E

★531. Mr H G April (ANC) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

How will her department address the challenges faced by informal businesses that found it difficult to benefit from the various relief measures that were made available as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19?

NO3278E

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

Since her reply to question 1263 on 20 August 2020, what progress has her department made in reviewing all its systems to move towards the finalisation of a more reliable and complete Immovable Asset Register?

NO3289E

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

Whether she has done an assessment of the impact of Covid-19 on small businesses in the Republic; if not, why not; if so, what (a) total number of small businesses have had to close due to Covid-19 and (b) steps has she taken to prevent further business closures?

NO3124E

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

How will small businesses benefit from the localisation that will be a driver of the Economic Recovery Plan announced by the President of the Republic, Mr M C Ramaphosa, on 21 October 2020?

NO3279E

★533. Mr E T Myeni (ANC) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

How does her department intend to continue providing the support through the various relief measures that it has developed to support small, medium and micro enterprises during the period of the lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19 to beyond the lockdown period?

NO3280E

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

In view of the commitment made by her department and SA Tourism that the tourism sector must be transformed as it is being revived to position South Africa as a preferred destination for leisure, business and events tourism, (a) what steps is her department taking to foster inclusivity and meaningful transformation in the tourism sector and (b) how is it envisaged that the tourism value chain will become more inclusive and transformed as part of the recovery?

NO3283E

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

What steps is her department taking to promote domestic tourism in light of the Covid-19 pandemic?

NO3291E

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

Whether she has put any conditions in place to ensure that the loan guarantee scheme to small businesses would benefit businesses run by mostly black persons in the Republic; if not, why not; if so, why did the specified scheme allegedly benefit mainly businesses run by white persons?

NO3125E

★515. Mr M N Nxumalo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:

How does she intend to inspire confidence in the ability of her department to carry out the proposed total border solutions that meet international standards to address and rectify the challenge of porous borders of the Republic envisaged to be carried out with the introduction of technology such as fibre detection and kinematic detection and given all the irregularities discovered with regard to the failed Beitbridge border fence project?

NO3134E

★546. Mr M J Cuthbert (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What (a) progress has the Government made in respect of signing a trade deal with China to mitigate against the R6,9 billion trade deficit and (b) are the details of the Government's position on trade relations with China, given that China has a net negative effect on the Republic's economy?

NO3293E

★553. Rev K R J Meshoe (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Small Business Development:

Whether spaza shop owners, particularly those selling food products are allowed to sleep in the same room as the food they sell, as is mostly the case in the townships; if not, (a) what steps does the Government intend to put in place to ensure that the unhygienic practice which puts consumer's lives at risk is stopped and (b) by what date; if so, what are the further relevant details?

NO3300E

★547. Mr M Waters (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:

What total number of (a) buses currently operate on the various routes of the City of Ekurhuleni's Bus Rapid Transit system and (b) passengers on average travel on the buses each week?

NO3294E

★510. Mr P G Moteka (EFF) to ask the Minister of Tourism [WITHDRAWN]:

(a) What scientific advice did she rely on before passing the regulation that persons from other countries who come to the Republic for leisure need to have a negative test result for the Covid-19 virus 72 hours prior to their departure and (b) has she considered that persons may be infected after taking the tests in their countries, but before they travel to the Republic?

NO3128E

★511. Mr P G Moteka (EFF) to ask the Minister of Tourism [WITHDRAWN]:

Taking into account the need for a negative test result 72 hours before travellers can come to the Republic and if indeed this is proven to prevent the importation of coronavirus cases to the Republic, what then motivates the decision to have a red list of countries from where visitors are not allowed to travel to the Republic?

NO3129E

★555. Ms M E Sukers (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

What are the relevant details of the concrete steps that she intends taking over the next year to assist the recovery of the tourism industry which was the sector that was hit the hardest during the Covid-19 pandemic and the resultant hard lockdown imposed by the Government to curb the spread of Covid-19?

NO3303E

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

(a) What lessons has he learnt from the Covid-19 pandemic in relation to the urgency of strengthening the local manufacturing of goods and (b) how will this influence the policy focus of his department in terms of promoting local beneficiation through boosting manufacturing in the Republic?

NO3130E

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

Whether he has conducted a risk assessment of defaulting on the repayments of the Industrial Development Corporation loan by businesses that are affected by the coronavirus; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a) are the details of the risks and (b) plans are in place to deal with the risks?

NO3131E