

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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# QUESTION PAPER

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**Note:**

1. ★ Indicates a question for oral reply.

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## QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2020

### CLUSTER 4: ECONOMICS

**★459. Mr S N Swart (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

- (1) Whether she intends to intervene in the Free State and Northern Cape where farms were affected by huge, widespread veld fires which have caused significant losses to property, livestock and game; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether she had been informed of any reports that arson is suspected as a cause of the specified veld fires; if not, why not; if so, what steps does she intend to take to prevent a reoccurrence of the devastating fires? NO3132E

**★460. Ms M D Mabiletsa (ANC) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

In view of his Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement on 28 October 2020, wherein he spoke about how important and necessary structural reforms are in order to stimulate economic growth and recovery, (a) what evidence can he unpack with regard to the effectiveness of the structural reforms in addressing the crisis in the Republic's economy in the short term and (b) how will the structural reforms address the chronic challenges of racialized, gendered poverty, unemployment and inequality?

NO3135E

**★498. Mr AM Shaik Emam (NFP) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

What measures she has put in place to improve the quality of services at post offices?

NO3175E

**★462. Mr Z M D Mandela (ANC) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

(1) Given that the Republic's new Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan has identified the promotion of investment in key productive sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, mining and tourism and other services as a second pillar, how important does she envisage the acceleration of the land reform programme is in driving economic growth and transformation;

(2) whether she has found that the Government policy on land reform has been properly communicated to potential investors; if not; why not; if so, has she found that it is well understood by the potential investors into our economy?

NO3137E

**★482. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

What is the current status of (a) disciplinary and (b) criminal actions in respect of the sale of the strategic fuel reserves of the Republic in 2015?

NO3157E

**★489. Mr N F Shivambu (EFF) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

(1) Why did he employ a certain person (name furnished) in his Office despite strong allegations that the specified person received illegal money from the intelligence slush funds, as revealed at the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Allegations of State Capture, Corruption and Fraud in the Public Sector, including Organs of State;

(2) whether the post occupied by the person was advertised; if not, why not; if so, what is the role of the person in his Office?

NO3164E

**★463. Ms M Modise (ANC) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries:**

Given the devastating impact of the Covid-19 global pandemic on the economy and the loss of many jobs as a result, what steps does her department intend to take to ensure that job opportunities are created through the implementation of its waste management programme for the many unemployed youths in the rural and township economies?

NO3138E

**★465. Ms A S Zuma (ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

In view of the fact that his department has been drawn into the volatile and sometimes violent situation in which some South African workers and communities have protested against the employment of foreign nationals in various sectors of the economy, (a) how does his department intend to contribute towards addressing the specified matter in the interests of fostering social stability and respect for the rights of all workers and (b) what policy measures are being implemented in the short term to deal with the specified challenge?

NO3140E

**★466. Ms M M E Tlhape (ANC) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

Given that due to lockdown regulations borders were closed, trade restrictions were implemented on the continent and across the globe and food security in the main depends on availability and affordability, what has she found is the impact of Covid-19 on the agricultural sector in the Republic with regard to food production systems and food security in general?

NO3141E

**★473. Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries:**

What is the position of her department on including the commercial sale of lion meat for human and animal consumption in the proposed amendment to Schedule 1 of the Meat Safety Act, Act 40 of 2000?

NO3148E

**★484. Mr N S Matiase (EFF) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

What actions has she taken to resolve the conflict between the Emcakwini Trust and community members for the control of the Babanango land restitution claim in Ulundi Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal?

NO3159E

**★464. Ms P Faku (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

Given that the licensing of spectrum is critical to the realisation of broadband infrastructure investment, continued provision of good-quality broadband services, lowering of the cost to communicate and economic growth, how will (a) the process of licensing of spectrum be handled in such a way that it contributes to the transformation of the telecommunications industry and (b) her department ensure that the poor in the townships and rural areas benefit from the specified process?

NO3139E

**★496. Mr X Ngwezi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

What strategies are in place to co-ordinate and deliver on employment grants and/or relief schemes related to the Covid-19 pandemic across departments and agencies?

NO3171E

**★497. Ms H Denner (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

(a) What is the current payment backlog of claims submitted to the Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme of the Unemployment Insurance Fund with regard to the total number of recipient workers waiting for payment and Rand value and (b) by what date will the backlog be cleared? NO3172E

**★461. Mr M G Mahlaule (ANC) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

Given the announcement of the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan (ERRP) by the President of the Republic of South Africa, Mr M C Ramaphosa, on 15 October 2020, what is his implementation plan in order to increase the energy capacity of the Republic, as energy is a key enabler to the implementation of the ERRP? NO3136E

**★471. Dr D T George (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

What are the relevant details of the progress made by the National Treasury in relation to pension fund reform since 2018? NO3146E

**★458. Mr W M Thring (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

In view of the reports (details furnished) that Rain was the first operator to launch 5G fixed-wireless access in the Republic at the end of 2019, Vodacom followed suit in May 2020, MTN was the latest to join the race in June 2020 and that Vodacom and MTN launched both 5G fixed wireless access and enhanced mobile broadband services in the Republic, (a) what are the relevant details of 5G generation and policy development in the Republic and (b) how was this possible without a 5G policy in place? NO3115E

**★467. Ms M M E Tlhape (ANC) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

In view of her report on Covid-19 interventions which indicated that over 55 155 applications were received for Covid-19 relief funds, but that only 15 036 were approved, resulting in 40 119 applications not being approved, of which the majority were small-scale and subsistence farmers, as they did not meet the criteria, what steps does her department intend to take regarding the farmers who rely on farming for household food security and survival? NO3142E

**★499. Mr AM Shaik Emam (NFP) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

(a) What measures he has put in place to prevent employees from being exploited by their employers and (b) what the total number of employers is that were fined in the 2019-20 financial year for not complying with the labour regulations? NO3176E

**★470. Mr C MacKenzie (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

By what date is it envisaged that the PostBank will be removed from the SA Post Office Group and repositioned to offer a full range of financial services without any limitations? NO3145E

**★487. Mrs E N Ntlangwini (EFF) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

Whether he has found any instances of collusion between companies and officials at his department which led to the misappropriation of funds from the Unemployment Insurance Fund, which were meant for workers who lost their employment during the lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a) are the relevant details of the extent of the collusion and (b) steps has he taken to bring all those responsible to account in each case? NO3162E

**★479. Mr N P Masipa (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

Whether her department intends to provide any financial support to farmers who are still affected by the drought in the Northern Cape, Western Cape and Eastern Cape; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO3154E

**★486. Mr V Pambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

(a) What is the basis of the management decision of the SA Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) to push ahead with the retrenchment of workers at the SABC and (b) how will the retrenchment of the workers improve the situation of mismanagement and abuse of resources at the SABC? NO3161E

**★493. Ms Z Majozi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

- (1) Whether, with reference to the SA Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) confirming that 13 employees received letters following their appointments being called into question, resulting in uncertainty as to whether the specified individuals have been dismissed or will continue working at the SABC, she will provide the details of the path being followed to address the uncertainty; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether she has been informed that a certain presenter (name furnished) was given a dismissal letter while on air; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, why were appropriate channels not followed in this case? NO3168E

**★468. Mrs A Steyn (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

What number of the 700 000 hectares of land owned by the State that was recently identified for redistribution is currently lying fallow and/or under-utilised? NO3143E

**★469. Mrs A Steyn (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

What number of (a) applications for valuations did the Office of the Valuer-General receive since 1 April 2018 and (b) the specified applications have been completed? NO3144E

**★490. Mrs K N F Hlonyana (EFF) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy;**

With reference to the discovery of gas off the Mossel Bay coast, what (a) further exploration activities have been happening in that area and (b) are the details of the companies and agreements involved in the exploration activities? NO3165E

**★472. Mr G G Hill-Lewis (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

From which budget line items did the National Treasury cut in order to allocate additional funding to the SA Airways in the 2020-22 Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement? NO3147E

**★485. Mr N S Matiase (EFF) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

In light of her recent decision to release state-owned land to prospective black farmers, what (a) plans does she have to ensure that those who get the land are supported with capital inputs to make productive use of the land and (b) what are the reasons that no land was released for this purpose in the Western Cape? NO3160E

**★492. Mr N Singh (IFP) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries:**

(a) What role does her department play in evaluating the structural integrity of the pipelines that travel between provinces and (b) how often is the evaluation done? NO3167E

**★474. Mr M Bagraim (DA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

Whether the Unemployment Insurance Fund has requested additional funding from the National Treasury to be able to continue its operations; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO3149E

**★475. Mr M Bagraim (DA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

- (1) What is the current status of the suspension of the management team of the Unemployment Insurance Fund;
- (2) whether any of the specified individuals are facing disciplinary action; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NO3150E

**★488. Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries:**

Whether she has any plans to release some of the state-owned forests leased out to private companies to community control, to ensure broad-based distribution of forestry resources as part of the plans for economic recovery and reconstruction; if not, how else does she plan to ensure that communities living around state-owned forests will benefit from these forests and will not be barred from limited extractive use of forestry resources; if so, what are the further relevant details? NO3163E

**★476. Dr M J Cardo (DA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

What is the current value of the investment portfolio of the Unemployment Insurance Fund? NO3151E

**★495. Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

With reference to her announcement on 1 October 2020 that in the next two weeks the Government will issue advertisement notices of 896 farms available to farmers, which is a significant number of hectares in comparison to the usual estimate of about 100,000ha redistributed annually, (a) how did the Government manage to secure such a significant amount of land for distribution this year and (b) what is the nature of post-settlement assistance that will be provided to successful applicants? NO3170E

**★477. Dr M J Cardo (DA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

What (a) number of officials employed by the Unemployment Insurance Fund are currently on suspension and (b) is the total monthly cost of their salaries? NO3152E

**★478. Mr M Waters (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

What are the (a) reasons that she wants to compel internet streaming services to include 30% local content in their video catalogues and (b) details of all the research results she relied on to determine that South Africans want to watch 30% local content on internet streaming services? NO3153E

**★480. Mrs C Phillips (DA) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

What number of (a) complaints related to allegations of corruption committed by employees of his department have been received since he assumed office and (b) the specified complaints have been investigated? NO3155E

**★494. Ms Z Majozi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Communications:**

- (1) What total number of memoranda detailing disputes with cellphone companies did she receive from the Information Communications and Technology Union in 2019;
- (2) whether she was able to intervene in any of the disputes; if not; why not; if so, what are the full relevant details? NO3169E

**★481. Mr J R B Lorimer (DA) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries:**

What (a) are the timelines for the Fishing Rights Allocation Process that is supposed to take place this year and (b) provision has been made to allow holders of fishing rights to continue fishing after their rights expire while the process is ongoing? NO3156E

**★483. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

Whether, given his recent proclamation of the amendments to Schedule 2 of the Electricity Regulation Act, Act 4 of 2006, allowing municipalities in good financial standing to purchase electricity directly from independent power producers, he will reconsider the section 34 application by the City of Cape Town; if not, why not; if so, on what date is it envisaged that he will make an announcement in this regard?

NO3158E

**★491. Mr N Singh (IFP) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries:**

- (1) Whether her department intervened in the reported huge spillage of crude oil that contaminated the Umbilo River as a result of a Transnet pipeline theft that occurred in the Bellair area, Durban; if not, why not; if so, what are the details of her department's intervention;
- (2) whether Transnet will be penalised and/or compelled to ameliorate the damage caused to the environment and humans; if not, why not; if so, on what date will the process start?

NO3166E