[No 6 – 2023] Fifth Session, Sixth Parliament

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates an oral question.
2. † Indicates the translated version of the question.
3. ◙ Indicates a written question not yet replied to after 10 working days expired.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 3 MAY 2023

CLUSTER 4: ECONOMICS

★192. Ms A H Mthembu (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Considering that the SA Post Office (SAPO) has recently been placed under provisional liquidation by the High Court, (a) how will this impact on ordinary South Africans making use of SAPO services and (b) what conditions are attached to the R2,4 billion grant from the National Treasury to SAPO? NO1421E

★213. Mr A N Sarupen (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

(1) Whether the document that was produced by the National Treasury in 2019, entitled *Economic Transformation, Inclusive Growth and Competitiveness: Towards an Economic Strategy for South Africa*, has informed the economic

policy of the Government; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) what is the current status on the implementation of the specified document? NO1492E

★235. Ms P Madokwe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:

(1) What has been his department's intervention in assessing the quality of coal used in the power stations and accordingly advising Eskom;

(2) whether the specified intervention includes reserving some of the coal that is exported to the countries that have forced the Government's hand to hastily decommission coal power stations; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO1515E

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

Whether, given that the February budget proposed major debt relief of R254 billion over the Medium-term Expenditure Framework for Eskom, the National Treasury engaged with the National Energy Regulator of South Africa prior to its announcement of a proposed 15,1% hike (details furnished) for municipal customers from 1 July 2023 (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO1422E

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

What number of land invasion cases has her department recorded where legal processes were taken to legally evict land invaders from farms belonging to the State and state land allocated in line with the Beneficiary Selection and Land Allocation policy to deserving beneficiaries? NO1435E

★205. Dr W J Boshoff (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:

Whether his department is collaborating with the Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation on the Hydrogen Society Road Map; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO1434E

★194. Ms V T Malinga (ANC) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:

Given that the War Room comprising his department, the Central Energy Fund and PetroSA had been set up in June 2021 with the aim of stabilising PetroSA to return the state-owned entity to profitability, (a) by what date does he envisage the War Room to take the gas-to-liquids (GTL) refinery out of care and maintenance as part of the stabilisation and turnaround options to secure the much-needed cash flow for PetroSA and (b) what progress has been made to date on the disposal of PetroSA's non-core assets to generate substantial revenues to fund growth initiatives? NO1423E

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

With reference to the provisions of the Employment Equity Amendment Act, Act 4 of 2022, (a) what methodology and/or criteria does he intend to use when determining numerical targets for economic sectors and (b) on what provisions of the specified Act will he rely to ensure that the specified sectoral targets align with the broader principles of non-racialism and economic growth? NO1504E

★195. Mr M Nontsele (ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

Given the significant increase in long-term unemployment, especially among women, in the Republic since 2022 (details furnished), what innovative approaches and/or strategies is he developing to (a) create more job opportunities, especially for women and (b) promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the Republic? NO1424E

★247. Mr A M Shaik Emam (NFP) to ask the Minister of Finance:

What is the total amount in revenue collected from (a) healthcare workers and (b) police officers in the past financial year in the Republic? NO1601E

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

With reference to the threats faced by the agricultural sector of food security due to load shedding, what steps has she taken to engage with stakeholders to safeguard food security and mitigate the negative effects of load shedding on supply and value-chain industries in the agricultural sector? NO1425E

★230. Ms T M Mbabama (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:

What (a) total number of land claims that were lodged with the Land Claims Commission since 1 January 2013 have not been resolved and (b) are the details of the main reasons that the land claims have not yet been resolved? NO1509E

★236. Ms P Madokwe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:

In light of the fact that it is almost seven months since the tragic tailing dam collapse in Jagersfontein that has seen hundreds of black persons destitute and homeless to this day, what are the reasons that his department is allowed mining activities to continue in the area, whereas the community of Jagersfontein had been sitting on a ticking time bomb and the mining companies had clearly not done due process to ensure the safety and security of community members? NO1516E

★197. Mr G J Skosana (ANC) to ask the Minister of Finance:

With reference to the new data from Statistics SA and African Bank (details furnished) showing that more households are falling below the poverty line, (a) what steps has he and/or the National Treasury taken to deal with food inflation and (b) has he found evidence that intervention in preventing collusion in the food processing market during these times has actual benefits for consumers? NO1426E

★198. Mr N J Kubheka (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

In view of the impeding factors that have resulted in the delay in the final stage of the analogue switch-off which was expected to occur on 31 March 2023, what (a) has he found are the consequences of the continuous delays of analogue switch-off to the digital migration process as it relates to the quality of connectivity and the cost to communicate and (b) steps will his department take to address such challenges? NO1427E

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

Considering that one of the challenges faced by the South African labour market is the extent to which labour migration is regulated to ensure that locals are not displaced by foreign workers in jobs that do not demand specialist or scarce skills, what (a) steps has the Government taken to ensure that labour migration policies prioritise the employment of and protect the interests of local workers, while still attracting the necessary skills and talent from abroad and (b) policies and strategies could be put in place to achieve a balance between promoting a more open and flexible labour market that allows for the free movement of skilled workers, while protecting local workers' job opportunities and working conditions, particularly in sectors where the supply of labour exceeds demand? NO1429E

★233. Mr T A Le Goff (DA) to ask the Minister in the Presidency for Electricity:

Whether a comprehensive recovery plan has been put in place to outline the Government’s response to maintain social order and ensure that essential services continue to function in the event that a national electricity blackout should occur; if not, why not; if so, by what date will the specified plan be tabled in the National Assembly? NO1512E

★237. Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What has been the impact of load shedding on the 243 Automatic Weather Stations in the Republic? NO1517E

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

How (a) does her department intend to address the rising concerns in South African communities with regard to the brutal attacks and fatalities caused by pitbulls (details furnished), given the recent submission of a petition with more than 130 000 signatures by the Sizwe Kupelo Foundation calling for a ban on the further breeding of the dogs and (b) can the underlying factors contributing to the increasing incidence of pitbull attacks on humans in the Republic be addressed in conjunction with policy measures to reduce the risk of such incidents occurring in the future? NO1430E

★208. Ms Z Majozi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Whether his department has collaborated with any other relevant departments to establish cybersecurity education programmes to ensure that the next generation is equipped with the knowledge and skills to tackle cyber threats, especially those operating start-up businesses that are heavily reliant on digital technologies (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO1437E

★202. Ms N Gantsho (ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Given that climate change is one of the most pressing global challenges of our time (details furnished), how can the Nationally Determined Contribution of the Republic be effectively implemented and enhanced to guard against the socio-economic challenges (details furnished) faced by the Republic, while promoting sustainable development, social equity and environmental stewardship? NO1431E

★215. Ms D Kohler (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Whether he advised the President of the Republic, Mr M C Ramaphosa, regarding (a) the need to appoint the Board of the SA Broadcasting Corporation as a matter of urgency to ensure that it can exercise oversight over the Executive Members of the Board and speedily fill the vacancies that will be created by the expiration of the contracts in just over a month of the (i) Chief Executive Officer, (ii) Chief Operations Officer and (iii) Chief Financial Officer and (b) the President’s reservations on and eventual return of the National Assembly’s list of recommended candidates; if not, in each case, why not; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NO1494E

★203. Ms S G N Mbatha (ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What measures will she take to deal with the scourge of crime at the SA National Parks (details furnished), which has been impacting on visitors' safety, wildlife conservation efforts and the tourism industry? NO1432E

★234. Mr B N Herron (Good) to ask the Minister in the Presidency for Electricity:

In light of the fact that the proposed growth of renewables into the energy mix creates the potential for a shift to a distributed generation model to be implemented, what (a) current development plans have been put in place to move towards the energy distribution model and (b) alternative measures does his department propose, which would greatly improve grid stability, more so than the proposed alternative?

NO1513E

★219. Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What number of captive lion breeding facilities have been closed down to date, following the recommendations of the High-Level Panel into the Management, Hunting, Breeding and Trade, and Handling of Elephant, Lion, Leopard and Rhinoceros? NO1498E

★239. Ms C N Mkhonto (EFF) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

What (a) total number of memoranda of understanding for office space has the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration been able to sign with municipalities and traditional authorities during the 2022-23 financial year and (b) is the monetary value of the specified agreements? NO1519E