

[No 19 – 2022] Fourth Session, Sixth Parliament

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates an oral question.
2. † Indicates the translated version of the question.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

CLUSTER 2: SOCIAL SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2022

★747. Mr L J Basson (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether, with reference to the current water shortages experienced in large parts of Gauteng, any plans have been put in place to expand the capacity of the Rand Water purification plants; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a) total number of additional megalitres will be added daily and (b) are the further, relevant details in this regard?

NO4821E

★716. Ms P Marais (EFF) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

What has she found to be the reasons that the Department of Social Development in KwaZulu-Natal failed to spend the R87 million from the Presidential Employment Initiative Fund, which was subsequently returned to the National Treasury?

NO4790E

★682. Mr T Malatji (ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

In light of the continuous non-attainment of her department's critical plans and/or regulatory policy frameworks, and noting that the title deed issuance and delivery of housing unit targets are not being met, (a) what is the working plan of her department to meet the specified targets and (b) how is her department improving its capability to implement programmes?

NO4755E

★680. Mr S S Zondo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

(1) Following reports that five sector education training authorities (SETAs) (names and details furnished) have collectively lost R1,6 billion, what steps has his department taken with regard to consequence management in respect of officials at the specified SETAs;

(2) whether his department has taken any steps to retrieve some of the lost money; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

NO4753E

★683. Ms G K Tseke (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Given that his department has in the past recorded a high number of cases relating to financial misconduct and the flouting of supply chain management processes, as is evident from the total number of cases being investigated by the Special Investigating Unit, what (a) mechanisms and/or strategies does his department intend to implement to restore public confidence and trust and (b) progress has been made on the specified investigations?

NO4756E

★745. Ms H Ismail (DA) to ask the Minister of Health:

(a) What mechanisms has his department implemented to protect whistleblowers within his department and (b) how are the mechanisms enforced and/or monitored?

NO4819E

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

(1) What are the protocols and guidelines governing the aerial spraying of chemicals in residential and/or sensitive areas close to human habitants;

(2) whether those living in targeted areas are advised of the potential health risks of exposure to the chemicals and/or the measures they should take to minimise such risks; if not, why not; if so, how?

NO4541E

★684. Ms N G Adoons (ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

(a) How is her department utilising the National School Nutrition Programme expenditure to support local economies such as small farmers, historically disadvantaged farmers and co-operatives and (b) does her department monitor this aspect?

NO4757E

★731. Mr B N Herron (Good) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

With reference to her media address in October wherein she stated that changes envisaged to the regulations governing the payment of the R350 Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grant will allow more people to qualify, and in view of the fact that despite changes in the income threshold having come into effect, many beneficiaries' applications remain declined due to various reasons, such as insufficient or incorrect banking details leading to millions of potential claimants still being unable to get their applications approved and/or get their money as promised, what (a) number of beneficiaries are currently receiving the R350 grant under the new threshold and (b) are the details of any changes in the number of applications since the amended thresholds?

NO4805E

★685. Ms D P Sibiyi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

Given that digital transformation has created avenues for creative artists to promote their work globally, which has created new income streams for creative artists, what is the strategy and/or plan of his department to empower creative artists to participate effectively in the digital economy?

NO4758E

★753. Mr N G Myburgh (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

With reference to the Auditor-General's 2021-22 report on his department, what (a) are the reasons that only 17% was spent from his department's budget allocated for the eradication of bucket and pit toilets and (b) steps will be taken to address the massive underspending in his department's budget allocations for the construction of much-needed infrastructure?

NO4827E

★717. Ms P Marais (EFF) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

Whether she has any plans in place to blacklist all the public servants who were paid the R350 from the Social Relief of Distress grants; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4791E

★686. Mr E K Siwela (ANC) to ask the Minister of Health:

Considering that patients in the Rob Ferreira Hospital are reportedly given one meal each day, while the expectation is that they should have at least three meals each day, and noting that relatives of patients are requested to bring meals for their loved ones, what (a) are the reasons that the specified hospital is not providing patients with the recommended diet each day and (b) happens in a situation where patients are unable to provide food for themselves?

NO4759E

★687. Ms M M A Mfikoe (ANC) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

In the context of increasing pregnancies, especially among teenagers who are reliant on their families, what strategies are in place to work in conjunction with other national and provincial departments to ensure that access to children's grants also includes strategic efforts to (a) focus on education opportunities for sustainable livelihoods and (b) include advocacy to reduce teenage pregnancies?

NO4760E

★688. Mr W T Letsie (ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

Given the challenges at the University of Cape Town, Vaal University of Technology and Mangosuthu University of Technology, what (a) active role is his department playing to avoid disruptions at a later stage that may prevent instability at the specified universities and (b) progress has been made on intervention measures by his department?

NO4761E

★750. Ms A M van Zyl (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

What total (a) number of schools were vandalised since 1 January 2022 and (b) amount in Rands in damages was caused as a result of the vandalism?

NO4824E

★718. Mrs N R Mashabela (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

- (1) What total number of the pupils who enrolled for Grade 1 in 2011 are now registered to write their matric examination in 2022;
- (2) whether her department has investigated the reasons for a particular grade being the grade where most of the pupils dropped out; if not, why not; if so, what are the reasons?

NO4792E

★689. Ms B P Mbinqo-Gigaba (ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

What (a) progress has been made concerning her department's support for the distribution of sanitary towels to protect the dignity of the girl child and (b) total number of learners are beneficiaries of such support?

NO4762E

★675. Ms S A Buthelezi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

- (1) Following the aftermath of the floods in KwaZulu-Natal a total number of 4 983 dwellings were reportedly destroyed, and noting that only 245 Temporary Residential Units (TRUs) were constructed and only 24% of homeless persons were assessed for TRUs, what are the relevant details of the assessment and validation processes undertaken by her department to determine who was eligible to be beneficiaries of TRUs;
- (2) whether her department had any programmes in place to assist those who remained in mass relief shelters due to delays in the TRU project with transportation to work and/or school; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details of such plans?

NO4748E

★690. Mr E K Siwela (ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Given that the development of the focused schools and the three-stream model is essential in creating opportunities for learners with different interests, how does her department promote technical, vocational, education and training colleges as institutions of choice for learners by enabling them to understand the opportunities and career pathways provided by such institutions?

NO4763E

★733. Ms A L A Abrahams (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

- (1) Whether she has found that the American substance abuse model her department spoke about at the meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Social Development on 12 October 2022, according to which the rehabilitation facilities and programmes are outsourced to nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) and the private sector while the Government only manages the registration and norms and standards, will be implementable in the Republic; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what has she found to be the impact that NGOs have made to date to combat substance abuse in the Republic? NO4807E

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

Whether COVID-19 vaccines, including those used in the Republic such as Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca, were tested for efficacy to ensure that they could prevent transmission of the coronavirus before they were authorised to be used on persons; if not, why not; if so, (a) when and (b) where were they tested? NO4747E

★691. Ms N Q Mvana (ANC) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

(a) How does her department intend to address the challenges related to backlogs in the provision of Social Relief of Distress grants and (b) what progress has been made in resolving the specified backlog? NO4764E

★756. Mr A M Shaik Emam (NFP) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

In view of the very high number of learners who are falling pregnant, what measures is her department putting in place to (a) prevent the high teenage pregnancy rate and (b) ensure that learners who start school in Grade 1 complete Grade 12? NO4830E

★692. Ms A Gela (ANC) to ask the Minister of Health:

Whether, given that human resources constraints in the health sector are having a detrimental impact on the provision of optimal healthcare services and noting that even the shortage of administrative staff has shown to increase the likelihood of losing medico-legal cases due to lack of files, costing the health sector billions, his department has drawn up a strategy to address the human resources deficit; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4765E

★734. Ms A L A Abrahams (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

Whether the SA Social Security Agency (SASSA) has taken any steps to ensure that (a) all SASSA offices are in a suitable condition through conducting annual audits and (b) its rental agreements for buildings that house the specified offices are concluded in a cost-effective manner; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NO4808E

★719. Mrs N R Mashabela (EFF) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

With about half of the current teacher population being over the age of 55 and due to retire soon, while the Republic produces about 15 000 new teachers in each year instead of the required 25 000 teachers to be produced each year if a healthy teacher-pupil ratio is to be maintained, what steps has she undertaken to ensure that the Republic (a) has an adequate supply of qualified quality teachers (b) retains the teachers in class?

NO4793E

★693. Mr C N Malematja (ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

Noting that although the Finance-linked Individual Subsidy Programme (FLISP) has the potential to unlock the housing market for the missing middle (details furnished), the specified programme has not been doing well, (a) what strategies will her department implement to ensure that the objectives of the FLISP are realised and (b) how is her department working with other employers with the majority of the missing middle to make them aware of such housing opportunities offered by her department?

NO4766E

★694. Ms D P Sibiyi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

What (a) steps has the Government taken to implement the two key recommendations of the Presidential Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) Commission that the Government must invest in human capital development and build 4IR infrastructure and (b) has he found is the impact thereof?

NO4767E

★695. Ms J Manganye (ANC) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

Whether, given the noted challenges of inadequacies in information management systems and technology as well as weaknesses in monitoring and evaluation, she has found that there has been any significant improvements to address the specified inefficiencies; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4768E

★735. Mr B B Nodada (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

What total number of educators have been developed professionally for the (a) Three-Stream Model and (b) Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics and Innovation education to date?

NO4809E

★720. Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Health:

What are the reasons that his department is failing to engage the Office of Health Standards Compliance on matters regarding allegations of poor infection control, dilapidated infrastructure, shortage of staff and electricity interruptions at the Valschfontein Clinic in Nkangala Region of Dr J S Moroka Local Municipality in Mpumalanga since 2017?

NO4794E

★696. Ms N N Sihlwayi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

In light of the fact that many local municipalities are owed billions of Rand by their residents and some local municipalities owe water boards in return, and that this has a negative impact on the maintenance, repairs, and operations of water infrastructure, what steps will he and/or his department take to ensure that monies owed to water boards are recovered from the local municipalities?

NO4769E

★677. Ms L L van der Merwe (IFP) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

Whether, considering that a total of 549 children were murdered in the first half of 2022, some not even one year of age, she has found that her department has taken enough steps to protect the most vulnerable in society, in particular children; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what steps?

NO4750E

★697. Dr K L Jacobs (ANC) to ask the Minister of Health:

How is (a) his department addressing the negative impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on Tuberculosis testing and treatment and (b) the catch-up plan progressing?

NO4770E

★736. Mr B B Nodada (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

Whether she has approached the National Treasury to assess the financial implications of the plan to make Grade R attendance compulsory; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details of (a) her interactions with the National Treasury and (b) the outcomes of the National Treasury's assessment?

NO4810E

★698. Mr M A Tseki (ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

How does her department cooperate and coordinate with the other two spheres of government to achieve the strategic objectives set by her department for some of the key service delivery areas that falls outside of her department?

NO4771E

★732. Mr B N Herron (Good) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

With recent figures showing that nearly 40% of nationwide municipal water is being lost to leakage, what (a) countermeasures are being put in place to stabilise this crisis and (b) has he found can be attributed as the root causes for the high percentage loss other than aging infrastructure?

NO4806E

★699. Mr W T Letsie (ANC) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

What is the progress with the implementation of the pilot programme and curriculum development that her department is currently piloting for coding and robotics and undertaking a curriculum review to adapt our education curriculum to the changing world?

NO4772E

★737. Ms B S Masango (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:

What steps has she taken to date to ensure that the remedial action outlined in the Public Protector's Report 26 of 2022-23, released on 30 September 2022, is implemented?

NO4811E

★721. Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Health:

What steps has he taken to ensure that the only hospital at the Dr J S Moroka Local Municipality has a sufficient number of ambulances to service the community?

NO4795E

★700. Mr T B Munyai (ANC) to ask the Minister of Health:

What plan has his department put in place to improve infrastructure development outcomes as the Auditor-General of South Africa has raised poor planning and the lack of project management skills as the cause of poor infrastructure delivery?

NO4773E

★701. Mr N V Xaba (ANC) to ask the Minister of Health:

Considering that the Republic is currently rated as one of the countries with the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the world, what has he identified to be the pockets of excellence in the Republic that highlight the approach of the Government to deal with the epidemic of HIV and Aids in line with the National Development Plan and the UNAIDS strategy?

NO4774E

★702. Adv T M Masutha (ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

In terms of the goals set out in the Medium-Term Strategic Framework 2019-24, in which her department committed to upgrade at least 1 500 informal settlements to Phase 3 of the upgrading programme, what total number of (a) informal settlements have been upgraded to Phase 3 and (b) households have benefited in the process?

NO4775E

★739. Ms C V King (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

What are the details of the statutory provisions his department relies on to allow sector education and training authorities to make ring-fenced contributions to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme, instead of managing its own funding provisions to students who are not currently employed in line with the relevant sector's priorities?

NO4813E

★722. Mrs M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

With reference to the Giyani Bulk Water Project that has been in limbo for more than eight years, (a) what are his reasons for citing traditional disputes as major factors delaying the completion of the Giyani Bulk Water Project that would benefit more than 55 villages with drinking water and (b) by what date is it envisaged that the people of Giyani can finally receive water from their taps?

NO4796E

★703. Ms B N Dlulane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

- (1) Whether his department works with the gambling entities within the sports industry; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what has he found is the value of the sports gambling industry? NO4776E

★681. Inkosi B N Luthuli (IFP) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

Whether, with reference to the Limpopo provincial department's decision to not renew the contracts of 117 librarians and its unfulfilled promise to absorb the employees permanently, he intends to absorb the specified skills into national libraries and avoid such persons being on the cusp of unemployment; if not, why not; if so, has he found that the multiple experiences of the specified employees assist in capacitating the libraries against a steady decline? NO4754E

★704. Ms N N Sihlwayi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

(a) What measures does her department have in place to ensure that every household that is badly affected by natural disasters, receives the necessary support from her department to access the emergency housing grant and (b) how will her department inform communities about the process for accessing assistance for emergency housing to even the most remote areas of the Republic? NO4777E

★740. Ms C V King (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

Whether any technical and vocational education and training colleges received training on the Continuing Education and Training Act, Act 16 of 2006; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4814E

★705. Mr M R Mashego (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

With regard to the outstanding sanitation bucket systems in the Free State, North West and Northern Cape, (a) what is the progress to completely eradicate the bucket system and (b) by what date is it envisaged that the eradication will be attained? NO4778E

★707. Mr M A Tseki (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

When last did his department communicate with the community leaders of the Nandoni Dam area before the shutdown took place and his department intervened to resolve the service delivery challenges and (b) what measures has his department put in place to avoid future occurrences of community shutdown in all the areas where there are water sanitation projects as the protests delay the implementation of projects? NO4780E

★741. Ms E L Powell (DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

What (a) was the reason for the delay in approving the National Framework to allow the National Housing Finance Corporation to implement its Covid-19 Disaster Recovery Plan and (b) consequences has she found the specified delay has had on the industry? NO4815E

★723. Mrs M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether, with reference to the declaration by the Special Tribunal that the software license and support agreement between his department and Systems Application Products (SAP) was constitutionally invalid, with the judge ordering SAP to repay his department for the software licence contracts, the R81 million was transferred to his department and/or the National Treasury; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, how will his department utilise the funds?

NO4797E

★709. Ms M L Pietersen (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

How will his department deliver planned projects within the (a) project timeline and (b) allocated budget as many of the bulk water and sanitation infrastructure projects commissioned by his department, such as the James Kleynhans Water Treatment Works under the Makana Local Municipality, experience delays which affect the budget?

NO4782E

★710. Ms R C Adams (ANC) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

In light of the fact that communities also use school sports facilities, how is his department partnering with the Department of Basic Education to allocate sports infrastructure development in schools through the ring-fenced 5% of the Municipal Infrastructure Grant?

NO4783E

★711. Ms R C Adams (ANC) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

(a) What steps has he and/or his department taken to contribute to building a reading culture in the Republic and (b) what has he found is the level of use of public libraries?

NO4784E

★742. Ms E L Powell (DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

What total amount in Rands (a) was originally allocated to the Residential Rent Relief Programme and (b) has been disbursed to beneficiaries to date?

NO4816E

★724. Ms N Tafeni (EFF) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

What (a) is the extent of the current housing backlog in the Republic and (b) total amount is required to eliminate the backlog?

NO4798E

★712. Ms B N Dlulane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

How is his department supporting sporting codes for persons with disabilities which are fragmented with minimal promotion and a few sporting facilities for persons with disabilities?

NO4785E

★679. Mr S S Zondo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

Whether, considering that in March he announced a joint initiative between the National Skills Fund (NSF) and The Presidency for the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative, to which the NSF would allocate R100 million towards digital education, the specified joint initiative achieved the set goals and targets; if not, why not; if so, what total number of youth benefited from the joint initiative? NO4752E

★713. Ms K D Mahlatsi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

The Ministerial Task Team has produced a report which is under consultation on a sustainable funding model which meets the demand for higher education to address financial exclusion which primarily affects the missing middle, what (a) is the progress of consultation with sector stakeholders and (b) inputs have the stakeholders made thus far? NO4787E

★755. Mrs V van Dyk (DA) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

Whether he has requested legal advice on the possible conflict of interests of the councillor of the National Arts Council of South Africa, Mr Bongani Tembe, who is holding the position of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Mzansi National Philharmonic Orchestra (MNPO) as well as of two regional orchestras, given that the specified person will be allocating funding to the regional orchestras as the CEO of the MNPO; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4829E

★714. Ms J S Mananiso (ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

With regard to the 11 out of the 25 universities that received noncompliance findings with legislation related mainly to them not having the required processes in place for members of staff to declare their conflicts of interest, what has he found to be the main difficulty of the declaration of conflict of interest at universities? NO4788E

★715. Ms K D Mahlatsi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

With the higher education sector currently facing numerous inquiries and/or investigations informed by many issues, but predominantly alleged maladministration and fraudulent activities, what are the relevant details of the internal controls that are currently in existence within his department which assist and monitor the work of entities that are accountable to his department? NO4789E

★725. Ms N Tafeni (EFF) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

What (a) is her department's approach to the formalisation of informal settlements and (b) engagements has she had with municipalities to fast-track the formalisation of informal settlements as a means of tackling the housing crisis in the country? NO4799E

★726. Mr B S Madlingozi (EFF) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

Whether, with reference to the increasing popularity of boxing bouts between celebrities in the Republic that is bringing the magnificent, yet dangerous and often unregulated contact sport into the spotlight among the youth, his department has taken any steps to protect the lives of young, black South Africans that are engaged in the boxing matches where the ring doctors are not vocal about the dangerous weight differences between the competitors; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

NO4800E

★727. Mr B S Madlingozi (EFF) to ask the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture:

Whether his department has done any work towards refurbishing the iconic H M Pitjie Stadium in Mamelodi; if not, why not; if so, what is the projected cost for refurbishing the historically significant stadium?

NO4801E

★730. Mr S Tambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:

In view of the criminal and persisting corruption in the entities reporting to him that see money meant for the youth being stolen in his department, how (a) does he intend to recoup the unaccounted R5 billion from the National Skills Fund and (b) will the recouped money be channelled back to where it was meant to go initially, which is to bridge the skills infrastructure development gap and also the funding gap in higher education for the youth in the Republic?

NO4804E