

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates an oral question.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2023

CLUSTER 1: PEACE AND SECURITY

★611. Mr X Nqola (ANC) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

In light of the recent conversation with the Hamas Leader, Mr Ismail Haniyeh, and the clarification provided by her Office, (a) what specific actions and/or steps has she taken to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza and other parts of the Palestinian territories and (b) how does she intend to leverage the experience in mediation and conflict resolution within the Government to contribute towards achieving a peaceful resolution of the ongoing conflict?

NO4737E

★629. Ms Z Majozi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Police:

What has been the extent and nature of the SA Police Service's involvement in the raids by members of Operation Dudula on foreign-owned shops in Diepkloof which sold expired food items that resulted in the deaths of four children in two separate incidents after eating expired products purchased from foreign-owned spaza stores? NO4756E

★615. Adv M R M Mothapo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

What concrete steps has she taken, in collaboration with the National Treasury and Armscor, to address the constraints of the stagnation and lack of investment in the landward defence capability of the SA National Defence Force, specifically with regard to the capability of the SA Army Infantry Formation and the non-finalisation of Project Hoefyster to ensure that the capability of the SA Army Infantry Formation is adequately funded and upgraded for the 2023-24 Annual Performance Plans? NO4741E

★635. Mr A G Whitfield (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

With reference to the VIP Protection Officers assigned to the Deputy President's protection team caught on camera assaulting members of the public, who are returning to work after their 60-days suspension, what (a) is the current status of the disciplinary action against each of the implicated officers and (b) steps has he taken to ensure that any officer who is being investigated for gross misconduct is suspended until the investigations have been finalised in order to protect members of the public and prevent the implicated officer from interfering with the investigation? NO4762E

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

Whether, given that the SA Police Service is operating with at least 8 000 fewer detectives in 2023 as compared to 2017, he has found that an increase in police visibility on the ground will result in a reduction of the crime rate; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, how will (a) this alone help to reduce crime and (b) those suspected of a crime be successfully convicted in light of the few detectives available to investigate cases? NO4562E

★616. Mr M S Chabane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

(a) How has the opening of the new modernised offices in Menlyn and Epping Malls contribute to improving the efficiency of services including the challenge of long queues in Home Affairs offices and (b) what plans are in place to roll out the modernisation programme to other offices to ensure the efficiency of services? NO4742E

★608. Mr A M Shaik Emam (NFP) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

Considering that it is well-known that many South Africans are serving in the Israel Defense Forces, which poses a serious risk to the Republic, what measures has the Government put in place to prevent (a) such a risk and (b) South Africans from serving in foreign armies? NO4733E

★619. Mr A M Seabi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Police:

- (1) What progress has been made by the Inter-Ministerial Committee to address violent crimes, including the killing of councillors and traditional leaders;
- (2) what has he found has been the level of cooperation between the SA Police Service and communities to address violent crimes? NO4745E

★648. Mr W Horn (DA) to ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services:

What progress has been made to ensure the extradition of the Gupta brothers, since the announcement in April 2023 that South Africa's extradition request did not meet the strict standards for legal documentation contained in the extradition treaty that was ratified in April 2021? NO4776E

★653. Mr M K Montwedi (EFF) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

Whether she has tabled a proposal to the Cabinet for the expulsion of the Israeli Ambassador to South Africa; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) on what date did she table the proposal and (b) what was the outcome of her recommendation? NO4781E

★622. Ms N H Maseko-Jele (ANC) to ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services:

What is the state of readiness of the field tests regarding the ten ankle bracelets, that were developed by the Centre for Scientific Industry and Research, that are scheduled to begin on 1 November 2023 for the electronic monitoring of parolees, probationers and those prisoners awaiting trial to enhance their supervision? NO4748E

★610. Mr M G E Hendricks (Al Jamah-Ah) to ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services:

Considering that the Constitutional Court has ruled that the Islamic Sharia Marriage law is part of the common law of the Republic and such marriages are therefore out of community of property as a default position, and further noting that according to Sharia law an annulment of a marriage should be declared by a customary authority such as a Muslim Personal Law tribunal, what are the reasons that his department intends to rewrite Shariah law, bearing in mind the ruling of the Constitutional Court? NO4736E

★612. Mr B S Nkosi (ANC) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

In light of the recent increase in coups and unconstitutional changes of government in the Sahel region and the associated political, diplomatic and security challenges, what specific measures and/or strategies are being implemented by her department to engage with transitional governments and support their transition back to democracy? NO4738E

★614. Ms P A Phetlhe (ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

Considering the ongoing Welisizwe Rural Bridges Programme and the role of the SA National Defence Force as a primary implementing agent, what (a) progress has been made in the construction of the bridges, particularly in KwaZulu-Natal and (b) will be the envisaged impact of the bridges on the rural communities they serve? NO4740E

★646. Mr M Chetty (DA) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:

With reference to the damning judgment of the Supreme Court of Appeal in relation to her department's infamous New York Pilot Project, what steps has she taken (a) to recover the R90 million and (b) against implicated officials of the Steering Committee to date? NO4773E

★654. Adv B J Mkhwebane (EFF) to ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services:

What (a) are the full details of the current backlog of cases at the National Prosecuting Authority and (b) specific efforts are being made to address the backlog? NO4783E

★617. Ms M Modise (ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (1) Whether his department has put any measures in place to fast-track the processing of applications for identity documents (ID) to enable South Africans to register to vote; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether his department will intensify the roll-out of ID applications for learners in collaboration with schools; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4743E

★630. Ms L L van der Merwe (IFP) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (1) With regard to the ongoing crisis relating to the employment of foreign nationals, particularly undocumented foreign nationals, what is the status of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on the Employment of Foreign Nationals announced by the President, Mr M C Ramaphosa, on 27 August 2020;
- (2) whether the committee is defunct; if not, what is the update on its work; if so, what are the reasons it is abandoned? NO4757E

★613. Mr T N Mmutle (ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

- (1) In light of the continued involvement of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) in ensuring safety and security at Eskom power plants and other domestic security matters, what are the further relevant details on the resources and capabilities allocated to the SANDF to effectively fulfil such roles;
- (2) whether there are any plans to extend the deployment period; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4739E

★651. Ms D Kohler (DA) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reports that, just before the XV BRICS Summit in August 2023, the server of the State Security Agency (SSA) was allegedly hacked by members of certain foreign intelligence agencies (details furnished), the SSA has measures in place to prevent the leaking of confidential security information by its employees; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

- (2) whether she has found who the responsible parties or persons were that leaked the information that the SSA server was hacked by the specified foreign intelligence agencies to the media; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so; why was it leaked? NO4779E

★618. Mr K B Pillay (ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

What are the relevant details of the progress that his department has made in its undertaking to work with the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition to share priority visas that need their attention regarding big corporates on a weekly basis in order to address the challenges of visa backlogs? NO4744E

★644. Mr S J F Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:

With reference to her reply to question 2826 on 13 October 2023, what total number of pilots and flight engineers have been employed as at the latest specified date versus the total number of the actual and current number of flight hours including other requirements to maintain the crew certification? NO4771E

★652. Ms D Kohler (DA) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

- (1) Whether she has found that the top-secret security clearance of a certain official (name and details furnished) was completed earlier than the average time of between three and six months; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, how was it possible to process the top-secret security clearance within a shorter period;
- (2) whether the process of issuing the specified security clearance is being investigated by the Inspector-General of Intelligence, with a view to identifying any irregularities for recommending the review of the process; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4780E