

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates an oral question.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2021

CLUSTER 4: ECONOMICS

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

Whether her department has a database of all land under its custodianship; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2335E

★163. Mr S N Swart (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Finance:

What is the estimated (a) cost to the national economy from the destruction of infrastructure and property caused during the unrest in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng in July 2021 and (b) medium to longer term impact of such costs? NO2167E

★176. Ms Z Mlenzana (ANC) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) What policy measures will the National Treasury implement in the short- to medium term to unlock the economic growth potential of the Republic (details furnished);

- (2) what are the fiscal measures that the National Treasury is considering in order to achieve more sustainable relief, particularly to households experiencing food insecurity?

NO2322E

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

In view of the challenges that we face in the Republic as a result of not receiving value for money, as an estimated R300 billion a year is lost to corruption, what measures does he intend to put in place as a matter of urgency to ensure that all spheres of government in the Republic will receive value for money, pay market-related prices and close all gaps in terms of corruption?

NO2156E

★182. Mr S Luzipo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:

How (a) far are the renewable energy projects that Government has processed regulations for and for which many bidding rounds have been completed and (b) how is Government planning to build a green energy industry?

NO2328E

★195. Mr J R B Lorimer (DA) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:

Whether the Government's policies related to transformation in the mining sector, which require certain levels of broad-based black economic empowerment ownership and local procurement regulations, are non-negotiable, even if they result in less investment in mining, fewer mines and fewer mining jobs, despite the current world-record high unemployment figures in the Republic; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2341E

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

With reference to section 6(1)(a) of the Public Investment Corporation Amendment Act, Act 14 of 2019 (details furnished), by what date does he intend to appoint a Chairperson of the Board of the Public Investment Corporation in terms of the specified Act?

NO2307E

★177. Mr B M Maneli (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

- (1) How does the SA Post Office intend to ensure that its services continue to be rendered even in branches that were heavily affected by the riots and looting that occurred in July 2021;
- (2) what plans are in place to ensure that the poverty relief grants are delivered easily as the SA Post Office has experienced difficulties, leading to the closure of various branches across the Republic?

NO2323E

★175. Ms M L Dunjwa (ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

- (1) What is his department and the entities reporting to him doing to respond to the unprecedented unrest that took place in July 2021, leaving a trail of destruction to the economic infrastructure in parts of KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng;
- (2) how is his department curbing incidents of fraud and corruption in the current interventions in the provinces affected by the unrest?

NO2321E

★184. Mr P M P Modise (ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

With climate change remaining one of the pressing challenges of our time and in view of the Republic's participation in the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow in November 2021, what (a) is the level of South Africa's readiness for the upcoming COP26 and (b) are the commitments and pressing concerns on climate change South Africa will be raising at the conference? NO2330E

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

Whether he has had any engagements with representatives from Rio Tinto Group regarding the closure of its operations at Richards Bay Minerals due to an escalation of the security situation which significantly hampered the mine's ability to operate safely; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2347E

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

What (a) informed the decision by his department to announce the three projects by Karpowership SA as the preferred bidder projects for independent power production before all required environmental studies were done and (b) course of action will he now take after the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment refused to grant them environmental authorisation for the projects? NO2308E

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

What (a) interventions is Government implementing to ensure that the Republic transforms urgently into the Fourth Industrial Revolution (details furnished) and (b) is Government doing to address the disparities between the urban and rural communities in this regard? NO2327E

★160. Mr N Singh (IFP) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) In view of the fact that her department has in the past issued a notice to Eskom to close two of its units at the Kendal Power Station due to non-compliance of environmental laws, how does her department intend to ensure compliance at the recently seemingly completed Medupi plant;
- (2) whether, in light of reports that Medupi's projected emissions of carbon dioxide will be exceptionally high in the next 20 years, her department will comment on the enforcement of air quality laws which were effected in 2015 within the operations of the specified plant; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2163E

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

(a) How have the minerals and the energy sectors commenced with their recovery after the unrest in KwaZulu-Natal and parts of Gauteng and Mpumalanga in July 2021, that impacted on the sales of minerals and energy and (b) how have the supply chains of mining and energy been restored? NO2329E

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

Whether she has had any engagements with representatives from the Onderstepoort Biological Products, which has recently experienced a leadership vacuum due to the suspension of its Chief Executive Officer and the resignation of some senior executives, to safeguard the availability of vaccines required by livestock farmers across the country; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2348E

★205. Rev K R J Meshoe (ACDP) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:

Whether she has found that the late Mr Velaphi Victor Lekhuleni, in his capacity as Chief of the Bahwaduba Ba Lekhuleni community, lodged a claim for restitution of rights in land on 21 October 1996 in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Act, Act 22 of 1994; if so, how did her department deal with the specified claim?

NO2351E

★179. Ms P Faku (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

- (1) What is the final date for the analogue switch-off for broadcasting digital migration;
- (2) what are the benefits of the migration to small, medium and micro enterprises, women, youth, persons with disabilities and rural communities?

NO2325E

★156. Mr A M Shaik Emam (NFP) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether, with reference to the unrest in Durban, during which time a certain warehouse (name furnished) that housed hundreds of dangerous chemicals was set alight, resulting in a great risk to the communities (details furnished), and the fact that her department has not been able to uncover the risk that was posed by this ordeal to the communities in the area, any measures have been put in place by her department in order to ensure accountability and consequences, as it is clear that the specified company did not have the authority to house such high levels and such volumes of high-risk chemicals; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what measures?

NO2157E

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

What (a) is the status of the investigation into the destruction and burning of UPL Chemicals Plant in Cornubia, Durban, which caused great harm to the environment and affected the fisheries sector with the chemical spillage and (b) is being done with regard to counteracting the impact of the damage on human livelihood?

NO2331E

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

What prompted the recent extension of the non-negotiable hard deadline for financial closure in the Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme?

NO2342E

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

What is her department doing to hold mining companies accountable for contaminating our waterways which are in many instances the primary water supply to many rural villages (details furnished)? NO2313E

★180. Mr L E Molala (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

- (1) What is the value proposition of the 4G and 5G spectrum for the developing economy like the Republic;
- (2) how will the 4G and 5G spectrum support small, medium and micro enterprises to grow in the information and communications technology sector? NO2326E

★186. Mr R A Lees (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

What are the details of the actions and measures taken to ensure that (a) all SA Post Office customers follow the COVID-19 regulations, with particular emphasis on social distancing regulations both inside and outside the Post Office building and (b) customers who visit the Post Office for other services other than to collect social grants are served efficiently and swiftly without spending many hours in queues? NO2332E

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

What interactions has she had with the board of the Ingonyama Trust in relation to the decision made by the board to continue with the appeal against the ruling of the Pietermaritzburg High Court on the Ingonyama Trust lease programme, despite the fact that she had previously indicated that they will not appeal the decision of the court? NO2314E

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

Given the unrests and looting in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng in July 2021, during which time a number of post offices have been affected, what is the (a) recovery plan for the specified areas and (b) progress report on the specified offices? NO2160E

★187. Ms A M M Weber (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether her department intends to intervene to stop the illegal deforestation of the Magaliesberg Biosphere, which poses environmental risks to the surrounding communities; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2333E

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

What number of farmers received 30-year lease agreements from her department since 1 April 2020? NO2334E

★173. Mr V Pambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Whether her department has conducted any feasibility studies on rolling out fibre internet to townships and rural areas in order to assist young persons to participate in the digital economy; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2316E

★190. Mrs C Phillips (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether the high-level panel to deal with the flooding and other environmental negative impacts in St Lucia and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park has been appointed; if not, by what date will the panel be appointed; if so, what are the names of each of the members serving on the panel?

NO2336E

★174. Mr V Pambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Whether her department has any plans to allocate more funding to young content creators so as to capacitate the SA Broadcasting Corporation to become a content leader once again; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2317E

★161. Mr N Singh (IFP) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Given that Eskom is projected to fail to honour its commitments to install flue-gas desulphurisation plants at Medupi as part of their agreement with the World Bank, what is the role of her department in this case, as failure to install the specified plants will result in Eskom continuing to miss its environmental performance targets?

NO2164E

★191. Mr D W Bryant (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether, with reference to the delayed finalisation of the Fishing Rights Allocation Process, her department has considered devolving the function of allocating fishing rights to competent provincial authorities; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2337E

★192. Mr D W Bryant (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether her department has taken any steps to assist Eskom to comply with carbon emission targets; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO2338E

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

What is the reason that his department has refused to meet with the 65 employees of a certain mining company (name furnished) who had repeatedly written to his Office to report numerous instances of disregard for regulations and the law by the specified company?

NO2309E

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

Whether, with reference to the National Treasury's proposed retirement fund reforms, pension fund members will be permitted to withdraw a portion of their investments prior to their retirement; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2339E

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

Given that the Republic's drop in competitiveness since 2020 has contributed to the already existing high unemployment rate, what turnaround strategy does Productivity SA have to promote employment growth and productivity especially amongst the youth? NO2310E

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

(1) Given that the unrest in KwaZulu-Natal in July 2021 resulted in losses for sugar cane farmers in the specified province with the effects being more pronounced for small-scale farmers whose majority are not insured, what steps are being taken by her department to identify such sugar cane farmers and provide them with much-needed relief;

(2) whether her department has gender and age disaggregated data to show the dynamics of the most affected sugar cane farmers; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2165E

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

Whether the National Treasury has performed any analysis of the potential impact that the proposed establishment of a National Social Security Fund will have on the financial wellbeing of taxpayers; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2340E

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

Noting that much was made of the Saudi-Aramco \$10 billion investment in refining capacity in the Republic in 2019, what are the details of the progress made thus far in having the refinery being built and/or the investment being realised? NO2343E

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

What measures has he put in place to ensure that the administration of the Compensation Fund manages the entity competently as the specified entity has received adverse findings from the Auditor-General in the past 10 financial years? NW2311E

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

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to oral question 475 on 6 November 2020, any of the suspended members of the senior management team of the Unemployment Insurance Fund faced any disciplinary action; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

- (2) what total amount was paid out in remuneration to the specified persons while they were on suspension? NO2344E

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

What is her department doing to stop coastal towns and cities from polluting our oceans when treating their waste water and discharging it as effluent from water treatment facilities such as the one in Strandfontein, south east of Cape Town, into the ocean impacting the quality of water as tests have shown? NO2312E

★159. Prof C T Msimang (IFP) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:

In view of the fact that the energy and mining sectors were not spared by the effects of the civil unrest which occurred in July 2021, including looting and the destruction of infrastructure, which specific risk mitigation strategies and plans has he put in place to redress changes faced by stakeholders within its sectors? NO2162E

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

With reference to the Compensation Fund's stated commitment to consider claims from workers who contracted COVID-19 while at work, what (a) amount in funding has been approved to pay out such claims and (b) are the details of the finalised regulatory framework in this regard? NO2345E

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

Whether all the social partners at the National Economic Development and Labour Council signed off on the Department of Social Development's *Green Paper on Comprehensive Social Security Relief and Retirement Reform (2021)*; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO2346E

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

What (a) number of communal property associations (CPAs) own land in the Republic and (b) comprehensive plan does her department have to ensure that all the land under the ownership of the CPAs is used productively for the benefit of all its members? NO2315E

★203. Mr Z N Mbhele (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

With reference to her recent appointment to the position of Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, what has she identified as her number one, non-negotiable, and top priority that she wants to achieve during her tenure, regardless of any prevailing challenges and/or constraints? NO2349E

★158. Mr S L Ngcobo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the unrest that occurred in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal in July 2021, which affected a significant number of businesses and left thousands of persons uncertain about their jobs, his department collected data disaggregated by gender and age to determine how the unrest might affect the unemployment patterns in the specified regions, given that we have high unemployment rates for women and youth; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

- (2) given that the Destroyed, Affected or Looted Workplaces: Temporary Financial Relief Scheme enacted recently allows workers registered under the Unemployed Insurance Fund in formal businesses affected by the unrest to get government relief, while unregistered employees and those who worked in informal business are left in the cold, what total number of the affected businesses were informal?

NO2161E