

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates a question for oral reply.

Table of Contents

Minister of Agriculture	1437, 1438, 1440, 1442, 1443, 1444, 1445, 1449
Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies	1439, 1441, 1443, 1444, 1445
Minister of Electricity and Energy.....	1435, 1436, 1438, 1440, 1441, 1442, 1444, 1445, 1446, 1449
Minister of Employment and Labour.....	1438, 1440, 1441, 1443, 1448
Minister of Finance	1436, 1437, 1438, 1439, 1441, 1442, 1446, 1447
Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.....	1436, 1439, 1442, 1443, 1447
Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources.....	1438, 1439, 1441, 1442, 1443, 1448, 1449

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

WEDNESDAY, 25 JUNE 2025

CLUSTER 4: ECONOMICS

★735. Mr M S Mbatha (MK) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

What (a) total number of battery projects has a certain company (name furnished) participated in and (b) is his position on the ongoing conflict of interest regarding the involvement of the former Chief Operations Officer of Eskom who is the main shareholder of the specified company?

NO4013E

★736. Mr M K B Molefe (MK) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) Given that the budget of the Republic is more than R2 trillion, what are the reasons that it becomes imperative for him to raise R4,1 billion through a fuel levy that is regressive (details furnished);
- (2) whether there were no other progressive tax measures (details furnished) that could have been considered to raise the marginal R4,1 billion that was needed to finalise a R2 trillion budget; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4014E

★737. Mr D D D van Rooyen (MK) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether, given that in October 2024 a case of fraud and corruption was opened against the National Treasury, Oracle and the Sector Education and Training Authority, due to the failed Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) which was installed by Oracle in 2017 (details furnished) he will now provide the National Assembly with an update on the progress since the case was opened against the National Treasury in October 2024; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4015E

★738. Mr M K B Molefe (MK) to ask the Minister of Finance:

With reference to his argument that the 2025 budget is not an austerity budget due to the marginal real expenditure increase of 0,8%, what total amount of the 0,8% is due to the (a) unallocated provisional allocations and (b) implementation of the 2025 public sector wage agreement? NO4016E

★739. Mr S P Mkhize (MK) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Whether his department has issued any compliance directives and/or administrative enforcement notices to the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality and City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality in terms of section 31L of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998, and sections 69 and 73 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, Act 59 of 2008, for their persistent failure to meet statutory waste management obligations; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details of the (a) dates and (b) outcomes of each directive? NO4017E

★740. Mr M S Mbatha (MK) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Given that in its winter outlook plan Eskom stated that if unplanned outages remain below 13GW there would be no loadshedding and noting that the specified margin was already breached when Eskom implemented loadshedding earlier this month, what (a) guarantee is he providing that there will be no further loadshedding in the upcoming months and (b) steps has he taken to assure the public that there will be no loadshedding this winter? NO4018E

★741. Mr A T Themba (MK) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Considering the complexities and challenges faced by the management of a certain company (name furnished) in addressing the environmental disaster which occurred in July 2021, what urgent measures will his department implement to ensure that (a) the rehabilitation efforts are expedited and (b) those responsible are held accountable?

NO4019E

★742. Mr S G Mwali (MK) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) Given the unprecedented delay in approving the national budget, exceeding two months into the new financial year, what is the detailed breakdown of the total amount spent by the National Treasury since the start of the financial year;
- (2) on which specific legislative provisions, including the Public Finance Management Act, Act 1 of 1999, and the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, does the National Treasury relies for the borrowing authority in the absence of an approved budget in order to ensure fiscal discipline and accountability?

NO4020E

★743. Mr J A Mngxitam (MK) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

With reference to estimates that the Republic has more than 2 million smallholder and/or household farmers who are overwhelmingly black and noting that the COVID-19 input-voucher relief of his department reached only 15 036 farmers, which is around 0,8 % of the total cohort, what total (a) number of small-scale farmers does his department intend to assist in the 2025-26 financial year and (b) percentage of the estimated 2 million smallholder farmers will this represent?

NO4021E

★744. Mr J A Mngxitam (MK) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether his department intends to implement any concrete measures between now and 31 December 2026, including budget reallocations and other measures (details furnished), to raise the proportion of smallholder farmers receiving meaningful support from the current $\pm 0,8$ % to at least 10%; if not, what are the reasons that his department has not aligned its smallholder-support programmes with the scale of need identified in the National Development Plan and other national policy frameworks; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4022E

★745. Mr K B Madlala (MK) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

In light of his public pledge to build a prosperous, non-racial agricultural sector that treats all farmers, black and white, large and small, in an equal manner, (a) by what date will he introduce to Parliament any proposed amendments to the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, Act 47 of 1996, to remove any barriers that small-scale black farmers face in accessing formal value chains and (b) which specific sections of the specified Act has his department identified as perpetuating inequitable market access?

NO4023E

★746. Mr K B Madlala (MK) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) Whether, given that he has publicly articulated a vision for a prosperous and equitable agricultural sector, ensuring equal treatment of all farmers, black and white, big and small, he intends to review and introduce amending legislation to the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, Act 47 of 1996, to align it with his stated vision and address any structural inequalities in agricultural market access; if not, what alternative policy mechanisms will be implemented to achieve his vision of an equitable market; if so, what specific shortcomings in the current Act have been identified by his department that necessitates a review;
- (2) by what date does he intend to initiate the legislative review process?

NO4024E

★747. Mr L D Selepe (MK) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

Given the systemic governance failures of PetroSA, how does he justify the (a) repeated appointment of short-lived chief executive officers (CEOs) with multimillion rand payouts (details furnished) and (b) R5 million annual salary for a certain suspended CEO (name furnished) despite the specified company's R9,6 billion financial collapse?

NO4025E

★748. Ms H H Mbele (MK) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

Given the significant disparities in project distribution and beneficiary reach by her department across provinces, some with high unemployment remain pending or under-resourced (details furnished), (a) what criteria and oversight mechanisms are in place to ensure equitable and effective allocation of Labour Activation Programme resources across all provinces and (b) how does she justify the current allocations in light of persistent regional inequalities?

NO4026E

★749. Mr S M Gana (Rise Mzansi) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

What (a) total amount will be made available to Eskom under the new Infrastructure Modernisation for South Africa Development Policy Loan issued by the World Bank and (b) projects will be funded in accordance with the conditions attached to the specified loan?

NO4064E

★750. Mr S M Gana (Rise Mzansi) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

- (1) What total number of unemployed persons have been beneficiaries of the Labour Activation Programme, funded by the Unemployment Insurance Fund;
- (2) what total number of the specified beneficiaries have since been absorbed into other formal employment opportunities?

NO4065E

★751. Ms O M C Maotwe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether the National Treasury has hired any consultants to work on any aspect of Operation Vulindlela Phase 1 and/or Phase 2; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) who are the consultants who were appointed and (b) what total amount was paid and/or will be paid to each consultant?

NO4202E

★752. Ms O M C Maotwe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Finance:

In light of the World Bank's approval of the \$1,5 billion loan to support structural reforms in the infrastructure sector of the Republic, particularly within energy and freight transport, what (a) transparency measures and (b) governance and accountability mechanisms has the National Treasury implement to ensure accountability in the use and strict allocation of the specified funds for reforms within Eskom and Transnet in order to prevent maladministration and/or misappropriation?

NO4203E

★753. Mrs E N Ntlangwini (EFF) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

What intervention plans does his department have for the communities of Sanddrift, Boegoesbaai, Lekkersing and all towns falling under the Richtersveld Local Municipality, who are being devastated daily by mining activities resulting in the disintegration of the communities and the emergence of ghost towns and villages?

NO4204E

★754. Mr S Thambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Given that he issued a draft Ministerial Policy Directive to effect what he termed an alignment between the Electronic Communications Act, Act 36 of 2005, and the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Sector Code on 23 May 2025, to allow access to the Republic's telecommunications market of foreign satellite companies through the use of Equity Equivalents, (a) how does he intend to effect the specified alignment without introducing amending legislation either to the specified Act or the ICT Sector Code and (b) what statutory and legal provisions did he rely on to amend the specified Act and the ICT Sector Code through a policy directive in order to achieve the alignment?

NO4205E

★755. Mr S Thambo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Whether his policy directive was intended to specifically cater for Starlink, in light of his meeting with representatives of SpaceX and Starlink companies to engage on regulations impeding digital inclusion in the Republic (details furnished); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4206E

★756. Ms L Managa (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What (a) urgent interventions has his department implemented to protect the lives and livelihoods of communities near the Madimbo and Manawa Game Reserves in Limpopo that are increasingly endangered by elephants that are straying beyond reserve boundaries, destroying crops, threatening vegetation and posing a danger to residents and (b) are the reasons that there has been no visible response from his department despite repeated reports and pleas from local residents?

NO4207E

★757. Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

What specific interventions is his department implementing through the (a) Energy Action Plan and (b) National Energy Crisis Committee to eliminate regulatory and administrative barriers in order to unlock and accelerate energy generation capacity from independent power producers, businesses and households? NO4208E

★758. Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

How is his department supporting the financial recovery and sustainability of Eskom, specifically through measures like debt relief (details furnished) to comprehensively deal with its financial sustainability in a manner that will limit its reliance on the support of the Government? NO4209E

★759. Ms T J Mokwele (EFF) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

Given that the operations of the Inspection and Enforcement Services branch are aligned with both global priorities such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 5 and 8 and national goals set out in the National Development Plan (a) how is her department collaborating with other government departments, municipalities and the private sector to improve labour law compliance and (b) what progress has been achieved in advancing gender equality under SDGs 5? NO4210E

★760. Mr M K Montwedi (EFF) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) Considering that ABSA Bank, as an implementing partner of the blended finance scheme, has reportedly declined numerous applications from farmers due to rigid requirements such as three years of financial statements while institutions like the Land Bank demonstrate greater flexibility, how does the agreement signed with ABSA differ from that of the Land Bank in terms of accessibility to support emerging farmers;
- (2) given that the Land Bank implements key developmental projects on behalf of his department, and in light of concerns raised by the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture following its oversight visit to projects in the North West and other provinces, how effectively does his department exercise oversight over the Land Bank which remains under the administration of the Department of Finance? NO4211E

★761. Mr M K Montwedi (EFF) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) Given the steady decline in budget allocations to agricultural colleges and their limited ability to raise revenue through participation in the agricultural value chain, what are the reasons that his department has not reviewed the operational model of the specified institutions to allow them to operate their own business accounts and generate income;
- (2) whether his department will revise the curriculum to include short courses tailored to the needs of nearby smallholder farming communities as a means of enhancing relevance and financial sustainability? NO4212E

★762. Ms F Hassan (ANC) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Considering the position of ArcelorMittal South Africa (AMSA) as one of the larger energy consumers of the Republic, what specific measures are in place to ensure energy security to AMSA at a lower price tariff as a bulk commercial customer to improve its competitiveness and ensure its continued operation?

NO4216E

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

Given the significant shale gas potential in the Karoo Basin and the concerns raised by non-governmental organisations regarding hydraulic fracturing, (a) how does his department rely on the provisions of the Upstream Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 23 of 2024, to ensure a balance between environmental safeguards under the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998, and the responsible exploitation of petroleum resources for the national interest through economic growth and (b) what role will the Petroleum Agency of South Africa play in facilitating the balance which promotes sustainable development in the sector?

NO4217E

★764. Ms N S Nkopane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

(a) What specific intervention measures has her department implemented to address the unemployment that has increased and (b) how is her department coordinating multi-sector efforts to effectively combat unemployment, which has now become a critical concern?

NO4218E

★765. Mr M Mrara (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

- (1) What interventions has his department implemented to ensure the revival of the SA Post Office (SAPO) following the R381 million reprieve received from the Department of Employment and Labour;
- (2) whether the SAPO is currently in a position to continue its operations without the interventions of Business Rescue Practitioners; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4219E

★766. Mr S C Sekoati (ANC) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) What are the relevant details of the set of reforms in the second phase of Operation Vulindlela;
- (2) whether there is any investment traction from the reforms in phase one and phase two so far; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4220E

★765. Ms S W Davids (ANC) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

In view of his participation in the state visit by the President, Mr M C Ramaphosa, to the United States of America (USA) in May 2025, what (a) outcomes were achieved in protecting the agricultural export interests of the Republic, particularly with regard to the USA 30% import tariffs on agricultural products from the Republic and (b) what alternative strategies, under the possibilities of losing out on the African Growth and Opportunity Act, is his department considering should the USA continue to impose such high tariffs on the exports?

NO4221E

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

- (1) What efforts has he made to rally both government and the private sector towards supporting and uplifting recyclers in the solid waste management space as it is one of the areas with great potential for job creation, particularly with respect to unskilled and semi-skilled labour;
- (2) whether he is looking into deploying new and innovative technologies to create alternative waste treatment methods that are eco-friendly and more sustainable; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4222E

★767. Mr M S Lekganyane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether the National Treasury has measured any visible impact in the different economic sectors emanating from the work of Operation Vulindlela in phase one; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4223E

★768. Mr V A Nkosi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

- (a) What is the link and/or relationship between the high electricity prices and the high cost structure of Eskom's poor performing assets and debt and (b) how do the financial challenges of Eskom and municipalities directly translate into higher consumer costs of electricity?

NO4224E

★769. Ms M L Mofokeng (ANC) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

- (a) What targeted support mechanisms has his department put in place to facilitate access to mining licenses for previously disadvantaged South Africans and (b) how are the initiatives measured to ensure they effectively promote inclusive participation and broad industrial transformation in the mining sector?

NO4225E

★770. Ms N A Ndalane (ANC) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

What (a) urgent interventions has his department undertaken to contain the outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth disease and restore stability in the affected areas as supporting farmers and internal markets are affected by movement restrictions and (b) steps are being taken to safeguard jobs and mitigate the broader economic implications of the outbreak on the red meat industry of the Republic?

NO4226E

★771. Ms R S Nalumango (ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Noting that 60% of landfill sites in the Republic are non-compliant, owing to a number of factors which include the lack of inspection by his department, (a) what measures has he put in place to ensure that more landfill sites comply with the regulations so as to ensure that they operate in a safe manner that does not harm the environment and surrounding communities and (b) how is his department mitigating against day zero of land and airspace that is fast approaching for a lot of the landfill sites in the Republic?

NO4227E

★772. Mr S I Subrathie (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

What is the justification of using a policy directive and not a statutory amendment by Parliament to circumvent the requirement of the specified 30% ownership for historically disadvantaged groups as provided for by the Electronic Communications Act, Act 36 of 2005 and (b) does he find that this undermines the regulatory authority of the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa which sets a dangerous precedent by which foreign companies and conditions dictate the policies of the Republic?

NO4228E

★773. Mr S M Maeco (ANC) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

Given the critical role of Inspection and Enforcement Services in ensuring labour law compliance, decent work and economic recovery, (a) how is the department working to enhance the effectiveness and accessibility of the services particularly for vulnerable workers in the informal sector and (b) what strategies have been developed to address emerging labour market trends to support inclusive growth that protect the rights of workers?

NO4229E

★774. Ms D D Pule (ANC) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

With reference to the incident around May 2025, relating to beneficiaries of the Masibuyele Emasimini project in Limpopo, who after being awarded 30 cows under a R2 million government-funded initiative slaughtered and consumed the livestock meant to help launch their farming project, something which raises concerns about the effectiveness of project oversight, the readiness of beneficiaries and the long-term success of agricultural support efforts, what (a) steps has his department taken to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future, to ensure stronger accountability and better project outcomes across the Republic and (b) kind of support is being provided to help beneficiaries run viable and sustainable agricultural projects?

NO4230E

★775. Ms F Hassan (ANC) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

In light of sections 2(c) and (d) of the Upstream Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 23 of 2024, which emphasise the need for transformation in the oil and gas sector, and given the high barriers to entry for historically disadvantaged South Africans in oil and gas exploration and production, what specific measures and forms of assistance will his department provide to facilitate meaningful participation by the historically disadvantaged South Africans in the industry?

NO4231E

★776. Ms K L N Sangoni (ANC) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

What steps have been taken to (a) investigate irregularities in the State Information Technology Agency's Western Cape education contracts and (b) enforce the recommendations of the Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr report, which exposed systemic governance failures not only within the agency, but also implicated the Western Cape education department? NO4232E

★777. Ms N Q Mvana (ANC) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Given the negative impact of the high electricity price in the Republic that is creating energy poverty through reducing disposable income in working class and poor households, (a) what work has his department recently undertaken to ensure that the indigent grant is more efficiently utilised by municipalities to support working class and poor households overcome energy poverty and (b) which provinces have been the focus for his department to address the efficient use of the indigent grant? NO4233E

★778. Mr V A Nkosi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

- (1) With regard to Eskom's Winter 2025 Outlook, what total number of hours of power outages across all provinces have been planned by Eskom for June 2025;
- (2) whether Eskom's Winter 2025 Outlook and the subsequent announcement of extensive and/or prolonged outages for June 2025 point to a high degree of unpredictability and potentially unreliable information regarding the power system's actual state; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4234E

★779. Ms M L Mofokeng (ANC) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

(a) What measures and/or methods are being utilised by his department and/or its entities to reduce load shedding and load reduction by municipalities and (b) how will electricity-generated independent power producers and the base load supply ensure the eradication of load shedding to ensure inclusive economic growth and job creation in the Republic? NO4235E

★780. Mr W A S Aucamp (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

What steps has his department taken to (a) defeat the recent outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in certain parts of the Republic and (b) prevent the spread of the disease beyond the areas of the current outbreak? NO4236E

★781. Mr W A S Aucamp (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

With reference to his comments to the President of the United States of America, Mr D J Trump, what are the steps that he intends to undertake to curb farm murders, farm attacks and stock theft? NO4237E

★782. Mr C F B Smit (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

What are the challenges and shortcomings of the current paper-based system used in his department and the entities reporting to him? NO4238E

★783. Mr C F B Smit (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

What (a) are the current risk factors to arable land in the Republic and (b) is his department's strategy to ensure not only the protection, but also effective usage of the specified land in the Republic?

NO4239E

★784. Mr S G Vilakazi (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

In light of the recent regulatory changes that allow departments and government entities to procure information and communications technology services outside of the State Information Technology Agency (SITA) under specific conditions, how does he envisage the changes aligning with broader efforts to strengthen and revitalise SITA as a driver of digital transformation within the State?

NO4240E

★785. Mr S G Vilakazi (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

What specific (a) oversight mechanisms and (b) performance benchmarks will be implemented to ensure that procurement of information and communications technology (ICT) services outside of the State Information Technology Agency results in better outcomes for government departments, rather than further fragmentation and/or inefficiency in public sector ICT delivery?

NO4241E

★786. Ms T K Bodlani (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

How will his department ensure that alternatives related to the policy direction that allows equity equivalent investment programmes in the telecommunications sector will still achieve the spirit of meaningful economic participation by historically disadvantaged South Africans?

NO4242E

★787. Ms T K Bodlani (DA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:

Whether the Postbank has applied for a full banking licence from the SA Reserve Bank; if not, how does he intend disciplining the Postbank for continually mismanaging the process; if so, what are the full relevant details of the application?

NO4243E

★788. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Noting that Eskom is still falling far short of its energy availability factor targets and that one of the ways to ease the burden on Eskom is to reduce consumer demand, what steps will his department take to incentivise and accelerate the uptake of rooftop solar energy?

NO4244E

★789. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Considering that the draft Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2024 has faced criticism from various stakeholders regarding its assumptions, particularly concerning the forced-inclusion of certain energy technologies such as nuclear and gas, and also noting the perceived lack of transparency in its modelling, how will he ensure the final IRP is demonstrably evidence-based, transparent and truly optimised for the lowest cost, most reliable and environmentally sustainable energy mix for the Republic, even if it means deviating significantly from politically favoured technologies and/or challenging vested interests?

NO4245E

★790. Mr E V Baptie (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Given the reality that the Republic faces electricity generation challenges and is simultaneously a net exporter of electricity, (a) what is the rationale behind the importation of electricity and (b) how has the exportation of electricity impacted load shedding?

NW4246E

★791. Mr E V Baptie (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Whether Eskom has specific time-bound plans to end load reduction at each specific location where the reduction is the result of illegal connections; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, where can the plans be sourced?

NO4247E

★792. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Considering that despite the numerous scandals highlighted in the report of the Mpati Commission of Inquiry into allegations of impropriety at the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) in 2020 at Daybreak Foods and other PIC investments, what concrete steps will he take to ensure that negligent and/or corrupt directors at the PIC, Daybreak Foods and other PIC investment companies are held fully and publicly to account?

NO4248E

★793. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether he will implement the recommendations of the Mpati Commission of Inquiry into allegations of impropriety at the Public Investment Corporation concerning the process by which suitably qualified and independent directors are appointed free of political control, including a non-executive chairperson with experience and expertise in pension funds, finance, markets and governance, that will also not be the Deputy Minister of Finance; if not, why not; if so, by what date?

NO4249E

★794. Dr M J Burke (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Considering that the Auditor-General (AG) has raised serious concerns on the vast majority of local councils' audit outcomes and the constitutional imperative for efficiency in local government, what plans are being put in place to give the AG more power regarding the division of revenue in the Republic?

NO4250E

★795. Mrs W R Alexander (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

With reference to the Income and Expenditure Survey of Households 2022-23 released by Statistics South Africa on 28 January 2025, what has he found to be the risks in relying on data that is more than 12 months old in the formula used for provincial and municipal revenue allocations?

NO4251E

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

Given that the Republic leads the G20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group under its G20 Presidency, what (a) is the detailed account of his department's measurable achievements in the specified role to date and (b) clear and outcome-driven goals has his department set for the remaining six months?

NO4253E

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

In light of the increasing threat of illegal wildlife trade, including poaching, bush meat trade, and snaring by local communities, as well as the infiltration of SA National Parks (SANParks) rangers and staff by criminal syndicates, what (a) strategies will his department implement to address the specified critical issues and (b) how will SANParks enhance its value proposition to local communities to ensure sustainable livelihoods while combating the specified illegal activities?

NO4254E

★798. Mr A D de Blocq van Scheltinga (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

Given that the Republic is Africa's sole voice in the Antarctic Treaty, despite the fact that the preservation of the Antarctic is a matter of global importance due to its role in controlling climatic factors and the sensitive geopolitical context which plays out on the white continent, how is his department ensuring that the Republic is positively influencing Antarctic policy, particularly with regard to its preservation as a pristine natural environment without exploitation from selfish unilateral interests?

NO4255E

★799. Mr A D de Blocq van Scheltinga (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

With reference to his department's revision of the African Penguin Biodiversity Management Plan, a crucial document that will outline the actions required to rescue the African Penguin, which was recently listed as critically endangered, how will he ensure the recovery of the specified species in the next decade through the implementation of the revised version of the Biodiversity Management Plan?

NO4256E

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

Whether she has been informed about the ongoing failure of the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) online system, which sometimes forces members of the public to go to the UIF offices and even after that effort still experience inconveniences like standing in queues for hours and not get the assistance they require due to the allegations of inefficiencies in the specified offices; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, on what date will the specified failure of the UIF online system be permanently fixed?

NO4257E

★801. Mrs D van der Walt (DA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:

With reference to statistics from Statistics South Africa that flagged the youth for remaining particularly vulnerable in the labour market, resulting in high rates of unemployment, what steps will her department take to (a) protect vulnerable youth and (b) improve their employment opportunities?

NO4258E

★802. Mr J R B Lorimer (DA) Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources

Given the continued decline in mining production and employment allegedly since the Mining and Petroleum Development Act, Act 20 of 2002, that was promulgated in 2004, what informed his decision to introduce provisions in the Draft Mineral Resources Development Bill gazetted on 20 May 2025 that will increase black economic empowerment compliance requirements in the mining and petroleum industry?

NO4260E

★803. Mr A D Beesley (ActionSA) to ask Minister of Employment and Labour:

- (1) Whether, given that economic growth in the first quarter stands at a paltry 0.1%, and nearly 300 000 South Africans lost their jobs in the same quarter, which is equivalent to approximately 5 000 jobs lost every working day, she has signed a performance agreement with the President since she assumed the office as the Minister; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the key performance indicators outlined in the agreement;
- (2) whether, since it is almost a full year since she assumed the office as the Minister, she has met her assigned targets, particularly in light of the worsening economic and employment conditions; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO4267E

★804. Mr R A P Trollip (ActionSA) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

- (1) Whether, with reference to his reply to question 2589 on 6 June 2025, wherein he declined to provide updated information on his and the Deputy Minister's travel expenses on the basis that the reply to question 2375 on 20 December 2024 provides the information required, he and the Deputy Minister have undertaken any travel at taxpayer expense since 25 December 2024; if not, who funds their travel to Parliament; if so, what are the relevant details;

- (2) whether, given the provisions of sections 42(3) and 92 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, his ongoing refusal to provide an updated disclosure of travel expenses constitutes a deliberate effort to avoid public accountability and evade scrutiny over taxpayer-funded expenditure by him, the Deputy Minister and his department; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4268E

★805. Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

What measures has he put in place to capacitate provincial and local governments to (a) implement agricultural technology and infrastructure programmes efficiently and (b) coordinate national strategies? NO4286E

★806. Ms N H Mhlongo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:

Noting the potential of the Republic to export green hydrogen as part of a \$300 billion global market, what are the full details of the (a) industrial development zones that have been earmarked for upgrade to support green hydrogen exports and (b) job creation prospects and/or estimates in this regard? NO4287E

★807. Ms N H Mhlongo (IFP) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

- (1) How does the SA National Petroleum Company fit into the broader energy strategy of the Republic and the Just Energy Transition and global moves away from fossil fuels;
- (2) how does his department reconcile the focus on oil and gas with long-term decarbonisation goals? NO4289E

★808. Mr L D Selepe (MK) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:

Who authorised a R933 million diesel deal with a certain company (name furnished) without signed contracts, payment guarantees and/or competitive bidding, resulting in R825 million in unrecovered debt and R30 million SA Revenue Service penalties? NO4293E

★809. Mr A T Themba (MK) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What measures will his department implement to (a) address the concerns of the local communities affected by the chemical spill due to the arson attack at the warehouse of a certain company (name furnished) in July 2021 and (b) prevent similar environmental disasters to occur in future? NO4294E