

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER

NOTE:

1. † Indicates translated version of the question.
2. ★ Indicates a question for oral reply.
3. ■ Indicates a written question transferred for oral reply in terms of **Rule 231**.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

TUESDAY, 20 MAY 2025

Delays in visa/passports applications

★142. Mr S A Zulu (Mpumalanga: MKP) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (1) (a) What steps his department is taking to address delays in (i) visa and (ii) passport applications processing for South African citizens who are working abroad, given the significant financial strain and/or uncertainty for individuals and their families and (b) what measures will be implemented to prevent such delays in the future;
- (2) whether his department will consider providing compensation and/or reimbursement for additional costs that are incurred by citizens as a result of such delays; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO679E

Simplifying birth registration

★143. Mr S A Zulu (Mpumalanga: MKP) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (a) What steps his department is taking to simplify and streamline the process of registering births for children who are born to (i) undocumented foreign national mothers and (ii) South African fathers, particularly in cases where the mother passed away or abandons the child, leaving the child without documentation and (b) what support systems are in place to assist such children in obtaining the necessary documentation to (i) access essential services and (ii) exercise their rights as South African citizens? CO681E

Electronic voting

★144. Mr V Gericke (Western Cape: EFF) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (a) What progress has been made with investigating electronic voting in South Africa for future elections (details furnished), (b) what considerations have been made for voters in (i) rural and (ii) farm areas regarding this matter and (c) what time frames are in place in this regard? CO682E

Agreement with banks

★145. Mr M Billy (KwaZulu-Natal: DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:

- (a) What progress has been made in finalising the agreement between his department and participating banks to support his department's continued efforts and expansion to improve service delivery, particularly regarding staffing arrangements and live capture infrastructure (details furnished) and (b) how will his department ensure that (i) underserved and (ii) rural communities also benefit from such rollout? CO683E

*Strengthening internal controls***★146. Mr M Billy (KwaZulu-Natal: DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

In light of the recent arrests and suspension of immigration officials at the Beitbridge Port of Entry for alleged corruption and contraventions of the Immigration Act, 2002, (Act No. 13 of 2002), (a) what steps has his department taken in collaboration with the Border Management Authority to (i) strengthen internal controls and (ii) prevent similar incidents in the future and (b) how is the rollout of body-worn cameras across ports of entry contribute to enhance transparency and accountability? CO684E

*Simplifying visa applications***★147. Mr N H Pienaar (Limpopo: DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

What steps his department is taking to simplify visa applications for international tourists who are visiting South Africa to further contribute to the economy and job creation, as tourism contributes nearly 9% to our gross domestic product, with a significant portion coming from overseas visitors? CO685E

*Digital passports/IDs/driver's licenses***★148. Mr N H Pienaar (Limpopo: DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

What safeguards are in place to ensure that the shift of (a) passports, (b) identity documents and (c) driver's licenses to digital governance is protected from abuse by (i) the current government and (ii) future administrations? CO686E

*Efficient departmental services***★149. Ms H S Boshoff (Mpumalanga: DA) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

Whether he will outline how under his leadership and/or approach to governance his department has been turned around into a (a) professional, (b) citizen-focused and (c) service-driven department, given the department's historical challenges such as inefficiency, backlogs and corruption? CO687E

*Digital transformation innovations***★150. Ms J S Mananiso (Gauteng: ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

(a) How digital transformation innovations assist Border Management Area (BMA) in enhancing their work, noting the Easter weekend reports and (b) when will new recruits for BMA be employed to address human resources challenges? CO689E

*Monitoring/removing fraudulent documents***★151. Ms O D Medupe (North West: ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

Whether his department has any programmes to (i) monitor and (ii) stop fraudulent documents that are manufactured and/or sold by corrupt internet café operators; if not, why not; if so, (a) what mechanisms are in place to (i) identify and (ii) remove such documents from the public domain and (b) what are the further relevant details? CO690E

*Strategic Plan 2020-25***★152. Mr P A Phala (Limpopo: ANC) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs:**

Whether his department will achieve its Strategic Plan 2020-25 goal of ensuring a secure management of international migration which will result in the country's interests being served and fulfilling its international commitments; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO691E