

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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PEACE AND SECURITY

Cluster 1E

Minister of Defence and Military Veterans 387, 388, 389, 390, 391

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY**TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2025***Operational readiness of SAAF***★177. Mr N Gotsell (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

Whether she will certainly confirm that the SA Air Force currently maintains the operational readiness which is necessary to defend South Africa's sovereign airspace; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CO954E

*Refurbishment at 1 Military Hospital***★178. Mr N Gotsell (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

(a) What is the current projected completion date for the first-floor refurbishment at 1 Military Hospital and (b) why the long outstanding project has not been finalised? CO955E

*Improving healthcare services***★179. Mr S A Zulu (Mpumalanga: MKP) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

Whether she has any plans to (a) improve healthcare services and (b) promote green initiatives by recognising that healthcare is a fundamental human right and environmental sustainability and a key to our future; if not, why not; if so, (i) what plans and (ii) what are the further relevant details? CO956E

*Combating corruption***★180. Mr S A Zulu (Mpumalanga: MKP) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

What comprehensive strategies will be implemented to (a) combat corruption and (b) stimulate economic development as corruption undermines trust in government and economy needs growth and job creation? CO957E

*Challenges in security/justice***★181. Mr S A Zulu (Mpumalanga: MKP) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

How will she address the ongoing challenges in security and justice while supporting education initiatives (details furnished)? CO958E

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*Hostility/divisions at headquarters***★182. Mr V Gericke (Western Cape: EFF) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

What strategies are in place to (a) improve the (i) hostility and/or (ii) division between senior managers at her department's headquarters (details furnished), (b) digitise filing system and (c) manage a department that has the capacity to roll out benefits to all veterans? CO959E

*Housing development for veterans***★183. Ms A Matshobeni (Eastern Cape: EFF) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

- (1) (a) What is the status of housing development plan for military veterans in Gompo township in the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, (b) how many houses will be built, (c) what is the size of (i) each house and (ii) the plot that has been earmarked for building such houses, (d) why has such a small plot of the municipal land that previously housed a primary school been earmarked for building so many military veterans houses, (e) what are the details regarding (i) bulk sewer plans and (ii) the environmental impact assessment study that has been conducted on the area and (f) what consultations have been held with the Gompo community regarding such development;
- (2) whether (a) consultations have been fair and (b) any agreements were settled out clearly in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (i) what are the agreement dates, (ii) what is the list of community members who were part of the agreement, (iii) what are the minutes of such agreement meeting and (iv) what are the further relevant details?

CO960E

*Implementation of Defence Review***★184. Mr P A Phala (Limpopo: ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

- (1) Whether, following the approval of the SA Defence Review by Cabinet on 20 March 2014 and by the National Assembly on 4 June 2015 and the National Council of Provinces on 25 June 2015, any measures have been taken to direct the implementation of such a review in the Department of Defence; if not, why not; if so, (a) what measures and (b) what are the further relevant details;
- (2) whether the National Treasury was consulted on such implementation; if not, why not; if so, (a) what was the nature of such consultation and (b) what was the outcome thereof?

CO961E

*Recovery of defence capabilities***★185. Mr E P Noe (Eastern Cape: ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

- (1) Whether she has provided any policy directives for the recovery of the country's defence capabilities, given that the Department of Defence has experienced a consistent decline in budget allocation over time; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether her department responded to such policy directives; if not, why not; if so, what has been the response to such directives to date;
- (3) whether she is planning to brief Parliament on such developments; if not, why not; if so, what (a) are the concrete steps in this regard and (b) is the timing of such engagements? CO962E

*Psycho-social programmes for soldiers***★186. Ms T I Legwase (North West: ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

- (1) What psycho-social programmes will soldiers be subjected to after their withdrawal from the Democratic Republic of Congo;
- (2) whether her department has enough capacity in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the areas of limitation and (b) what are the further relevant details? CO963E

*Verification process for military veterans***★187. Ms T I Legwase (North West: ANC) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

What measures are in place to (a) accelerate and (b) fairly finalise the verification process of military veterans as there are ongoing concerns regarding the imbalance in recognising veterans from former liberation movements such as uMkhonto weSizwe and Azanian People's Liberation Army? CO964E

Questions transferred from written to oral reply in terms of Rule 231:*Secondment of Chief Director***■12. Mr O J Mokae (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [Written Question No 142]**

- (1) (a) Who acted as Chief Director during the secondment of a certain person at the Secretariat of the Arms Trade Treaty in Geneva (details furnished) and (b) what costs were incurred (i) for such acting period and (ii) to (aa) relocate and (bb) accommodate the said person and his family in Geneva;

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- (2) whether the said person and his family (a) returned or (b) are returning to South Africa; if so, what costs (i) were or (ii) will be incurred to relocate the said person and his family to South Africa;
- (3) what is the exact extent of the benefits that the said person's secondment held for (a) her department, (b) the National Conventional Arms Control Committee, (c) the Directorate Conventional Arms Control and (d) South Africa? CW160E

Findings of Supreme Court of Appeal

■13. **Mr N Gotsell (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [Written Question No 365]**

With reference to her reply to Question 76 on 5 March 2025, (a) what are the (i) aspects and (ii) specific findings of the Supreme Court of Appeal's judgement which her department is appealing and (b) how they relate to the findings against her Special Advisor? CW423E

SA Military Health Services

■14. **Ms J M Adriaanse (North West: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [Written Question No 463]**

With reference to her reply to Question 576 on 25 November 2024, (a) which former (i) Presidents and spouses, (ii) Deputy Presidents and spouses or (iii) Defence Ministers and spouses who are also members of Parmed have made use of private hospitals albeit within South African borders, outside or abroad since 1 May 2009, (b) why was private hospital care necessary in each case and (c) why was services of the SA Military Health Services not being utilised? CW526E

Communication records

■15. **Mr N Gotsell (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [Written Question No 650]**

Whether, with reference to her reply to Question 288 on 17 April 2025, she will provide copies of records of all (a) correspondence and (b) other forms of communication for several follow-ups attempts by the investigator that have been unanswered by the complaint; if not, why not; if so, (i) what progress has been made in the declassification of classified documents, (ii) who is responsible for such declassification and (iii) what are the reasons for delays in this regard? CW750E

Authorised leave days

■16. **Mr M Billy (KwaZulu-Natal: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [Written Question No 653]**

- (1) With reference to her reply to Question 192 on 28 April 2025, (a) what are the reasons for her refusal to properly reply to the said Question (details furnished), (b) how many of the 30 entitled leave days have been (i) authorised and/or (ii) actually taken by the

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said persons in (aa) 2023 and (bb) 2024 calendar years and (c) how many days have they been on leave in the said years;

- (2) whether a certain Lieutenant General (details furnished) (a) declared the intention to write a book and (b) requested permission to make use of the services of a certain Corporal (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, (i) what arrangements have been made to ensure there is no conflict of interest between his personal projects and official duties in this regard and (ii) what are the further relevant details? CW753E

SADCMSS Operation Copper

■17. Mr M Billy (KwaZulu-Natal: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [Written Question No 655]

- (1) Whether she will provide a breakdown of costs that are associated with the (a) refuelling, (b) port charges and (c) cost of employees regarding the Southern African Development Community Maritime Security Strategy Operation Copper extension from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether the SA Navy is fully equipped to ensure any mission's successes; if not, why not; if so, how deployment extension is in the national interest? CW755E

Legal services/court charges

■18. Mr N Gotsell (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans: [Written Question No 702]

Whether, with reference to her protracted legal battles (details furnished), she will provide a cost break-down (a) as to how much has been spent on (i) legal services and (ii) court charges and (b) of legal services in the matter of appealing the Supreme Court of Appeal Judgement against a certain Special Advisor to the Constitutional Court (details furnished); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the prospects of success in each case? CW801E