

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION PAPER

Note:

1. ★ Indicates an oral question.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

THURSDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2024

CLUSTER 3: GOVERNANCE

★584. Ms P P Xaba-Ntshaba (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration:

Given that several public service points have connectivity challenges which inconveniences the public, in what manner is his department collaborating with other state technology entities such as the State Information Technology for connectivity and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Technology Innovation Agency and others for innovative solutions that will professionalise the Public Service? NO3145E

★639. Mr L W Mahlatsi (UAT) to ask the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

What (a) is the outline of the immediate steps his department is taking to identify and address instances of corruption within municipalities, particularly involving supply chain and finance officials who allegedly demand bribes before processing payments to businesses and (b) measures are in place to prevent and swiftly address such misconduct to uphold the integrity of municipal financial management?

NO3203E

★588. Mr P Ndamase (ANC) to ask the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

How does his department intend to support the National Treasury and the Department of Water and Sanitation to resolve the debt of municipalities to water boards which pose a risk to efficient water supply?

NO3149E

★612. Ms A M van Zyl (DA) to ask the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

Given recent reports of corruption and mismanagement in the provision of water tanker services, what (a) steps are being taken to ensure that funds allocated for emergency water delivery are used transparently and efficiently and (b) measures will be implemented to prevent overcharging and/or service manipulation by contractors?

NO3172E

★631. Mr M P Motubatse (MK) to ask the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

In light of the recent controversies about an asbestos contract in KwaZulu-Natal involving large sums of money and high-profile suspensions, (a) what measures are being implemented by his department to improve transparency and reduce corruption in municipal tenders and (b) which specific control mechanisms are mostly compromised when such transgressions take place?

NO3194E

★592. Ms R C Adams (ANC) to ask the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities:

Whether, given that many women and persons with disabilities are facing income disparities, her Office has used its monitoring powers to advocate for Cabinet to address and/or close the wage gap; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO3153E

★624. Ms S Gcilishe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration:

What (a) progress has been made in the appointment of Ministerial support staff since the commencement of the Seventh Administration and (b) checks and balances has his department put in place to ensure that no unqualified person gets appointed to higher positions, considering the reported incidents in which unqualified persons have been appointed to high paying positions in the Ministerial offices?

NO3187E

★617. Mr K P Sithole (IFP) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

What (a) steps does the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) plan to take to enhance reader engagement with *Vuk'uzenzele* and thereby encourage community feedback and interaction with the publication and (b) specific digital transformation initiatives does GCIS intend to prioritise, given the need for an extensive capital budget to accelerate digital transformation?

NO3177E

★594. Ms M J Aphiri (ANC) to ask the Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation:

What (a) progress has the Government made in developing the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP) 2024-2029 and (b) measures are in place to ensure that the strategic plans of state organs align with the priorities and indicators of the MTDP?

NO3155E

★597. Ms T K Bodlani (DA) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

How does she intend to respond to the racial and underqualification allegations that have emerged within the Executive Committee of the Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA) to ensure stability within the MDDA?

NO3158E

★585. Ms W Tikana-Gxotiwe (ANC) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration:

The interoperability of the Information and Communications Technology systems in the Public Service is critical for information-sharing which will enhance decision-making in the Public Service, what measure is his department implementing to enhance such areas?

NO3146E

★632. Mr S I Gama (MK) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

Noting that Statistics SA (Stats SA) is currently faced with stiff competition and its critical human resources being depleted because of poaching by either multilateral organisations and/or the commercial banking sector, which results in a huge vacancy rate at Stats SA that may in future impede its ability to execute its mandate, what has she found to be the reasons cited the most by Stats SA employees when leaving the organisation?

NO3195E

★625. Ms S Gcilishe (EFF) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration:

What is the (a) total number of vacant funded positions in the public sector and (b) main reason for the failure to fill the vacant positions?

NO3188E

★596. Ms A N Kumbaca (ANC) to ask the Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation:

What is the progress of the Government in responding to commitments made in the Presidential Imbizos?

NO3157E

★598. Ms T K Bodlani (DA) to ask the Minister in The Presidency:

Whether she intends introducing any legislation in the National Assembly to update the outdated mandates of entities reporting to her in a manner that will be cost beneficial to her Office, such as the mandate of the Media Development and Diversity Agency; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO3159E

★593. Ms F L Shabangu (ANC) to ask the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities:

What job creation programmes will her Office advance in the (a) public and (b) private sectors in order to alleviate ever-increasing youth unemployment? NO3154E

★640. Mr L W Mahlatsi (UAT) to ask the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities:

What (a) immediate plans are in place to promote equality, social inclusion, and equal representation for persons living with disabilities in the Republic, particularly regarding budget mainstreaming and (b) measures will her Office put in place to ensure that the specified plans are effectively implemented across all sectors of society? NO3206E

★595. Ms T Mgweba (ANC) to ask the Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation:

(a) What lessons has she learnt from her visit to China which focused on state-owned enterprises and (b) how will this shape the development of the National State Enterprises Bill which seeks to develop a State Asset Management SOC Ltd as a holding company? NO3156E

★600. Mr D Bergman (DA) to ask the Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation:

Whether, with reference to her reply to question 607 on 22 October 2024, she has found that the monitoring and evaluation responsibilities that her Office has in respect of the executive notwithstanding the location and operation from within The Presidency, remain unencumbered; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the bases for her findings? NO3161E

★636. Ms N M Gasa (MK) to ask the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities:

- (1) Whether her Office has monitored the alarming reports of women fainting outside the offices of the SA Social Security Agency, particularly vulnerable women and persons with disabilities;
- (2) what plan has her Office developed to monitor and hold accountable those responsible for the neglect of beneficiaries, ensuring that no one is left without support during their time of need? NO3199E

QUESTIONS TRANSFERRED FROM WRITTEN TO ORAL REPLY IN TERMS OF RULE 146(1)

★641. Ms K A Christie (DA) to ask the Minister in the Presidency *[Interdepartmentally transferred from Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation with effect Wednesday, 25 September 2024]* [Written question 516]:

(a) What were the reasons that data on the (i) income variable, (ii) labour module, (iii) demographic themes, (iv) unconventional households, (v) homeless and (vi) institution-based populations were excluded from the Census 2022 and (b) how has she found that the excluded data impacted on the accuracy of Census 2022? NO697E

★642. Ms K A Christie (DA) to ask the Minister in the Presidency *[Interdepartmentally transferred from Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation with effect Wednesday, 25 September 2024]* [Written question 517]:

Whether she has found that (a) the undercount of Census 2022 and (b) the delay and inadequacy of the post-enumeration survey have led to inaccurate population statistics in our communities; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what has she found to have been the extent of the impact of these factors on budgetary allocations to provinces and local governments? NO698E

★643. Ms K A Christie (DA) to ask the Minister in the Presidency *[Interdepartmentally transferred from Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation with effect Wednesday, 25 September 2024]* [Written question 518]:

- (1) What are the full details of the plans that are in place in preparation for the Republic's next Census;
- (2) whether an independent panel of experts will form part of the next Census process; if not, why not; if so, what will be the extent of their contribution;
- (3) what (a) inadequacies were found and/or identified by Statistics South Africa with regard to Census 2022, (b) what plans are in place to improve the next Census and (c) assistance and/or expertise does Statistics SA require in preparation for our next Census? NO699E

★644. Ms E Linde (DA) to ask the Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation [Written question 544]:

- (1) Given that only 15 Schedule 2 state-owned entities (SOEs) are currently audited by the Auditor-General, what are the reasons that not all of the 21 Schedule 2 SOE's are audited by the Auditor-General;
- (2) whether Schedule 1 SOEs are audited by the Auditor-General; if not, why not; if so, what are the further relevant details? NO727E

★645. Ms L R Potgieter (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Service and Administration [Written question 1082]:

With reference to the *Report on the Qualifications of Senior Managers in the Public Service – Updated* issued by the Public Service Commission in May 2024, which indicates that only 29,7%, which translated to 11 out of 37 national government departments, and only 28,8% which translates to 32 out of 111 provincial departments, confirmed that 100% of their senior managers were qualified for the posts they occupied, and that only 38,7% which translates to 43 out of 111 provincial departments actually verified senior manager qualifications, what (a) progress has been made to date in terms of (i) regulating the capturing of senior manager qualifications and (ii) ensuring departmental compliance with the recommendations of the specified report and (b) steps does he intend to take to resolve the extremely high levels of non-compliance in order to ensure a professionalised Public Service?

NO1325E

★646. Mr D Bergman (DA) to ask the Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation [Written question 1216]:

- (1) Whether the (a) SA Airways (SAA) technical and (b) Airchefs submitted independent financial statements for the (i) 2020-21, (ii) 2021-22 and (iii) 2022-23 financial years; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
- (2) whether they were submitted as part of the consolidated SAA financial statements in each year; if not, what is the position in each case; if so,
- (3) whether the Auditor-general of South Africa signed off on the financial statements for all the specified years above; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the relevant details?

NO1492E

★647. Ms E R J Spies (DA) to ask the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities [Written question 1249]:

What initiatives will her department implement to promote the often-limited diversity and inclusion in rural workplaces and thereby provide opportunities for women, youth and persons with disabilities and social cohesion in community development?

NO1527E

★648. Ms E R J Spies (DA) to ask the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities [Written question 1250]:

What measures will her department take to address the problem of limited access to education and training in rural areas for women, youth and persons with disabilities, and thereby provide them with opportunities for skills development and entrepreneurship which will reduce unemployment and poverty?

NO1528E

★649. Ms E R J Spies (DA) to ask the Minister of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities [Written question 1390]:

What steps is her department taking to collaborate with the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies to address the issue of limited access to digital infrastructure and connectivity for women, youth and persons with disabilities living in rural areas, which often hinders access to education, skills development, and employment opportunities?

NO1718E