# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## QUESTION PAPER

**Note:**

1. ★ Indicates an oral question.

2. † Indicates the translated version of the question.

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## QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

## WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

## CLUSTER 4: ECONOMICS

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

Given that nine months ago The Presidency handed over 500 companies to the National Treasury for potential blacklisting following extensive corruption and fraud investigations by the Special Investigating Unit, but only a mere 18 entities have been successfully restricted, leaving 491 companies still under review and still winning government tenders, what are the full details of the (a) policy and/or legislative provisions that the National Treasury relies on in allowing such companies to bid for government contracts and (b) time frame of the reviews for either blacklisting or clearing the companies? NO5468E

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

Whether any specific proactive measures have been taken to follow up on municipalities whose funds were withheld to ensure good governance, with emphasis on financial resource efficiency; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO5447E

**★766. Dr L W Mahlatsi (UAT) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:**

(1) Whether, considering that the National Empowerment Fund (NEF) application requirements present significant challenges for entities such as Abalimi Besivuno Co-operative communal farmers, although land access is secured, he intends to conduct an oversight visit to the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality in Mpumalanga to better understand the situation and explore possible interventions; if not, why not; if so, on what date(s);

(2) whether his department has a grant programme, rather than loan facilities, that could assist co-operatives; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO5495E

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

With reference to the expectation that the electricity pricing review will enable an efficient pricing system to be developed for the Republic, (a) what process will be followed to finalise the pricing review study following comments from stakeholders and (b) in what manner will the implementation of the findings occur, especially for poor and indigent households? NO5448E

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

With reference to reports that only 20% of Free Basic Electricity (FBE) beneficiaries receive the full 50 kWh monthly allocation, what (a) are the principal reasons that qualifying households do not receive the full benefit and (b) measures has his department implemented to ensure that funded FBE reaches qualifying households? NO5467E

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

In view of the South African economy that continues to grow at a rate that is insufficient to make a substantial impact on unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, what (a) annual economic growth rate does the National Treasury consider necessary to achieve a significant reduction in unemployment and (b) specific fiscal interventions and measurable targets have been adopted to achieve the net number of new jobs that the Government expects the economy to create in the next three financial years? NO5533E

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

Whether he has found that the Republic has adequate security of petroleum supply, considering the level of strategic stock held by the Strategic Fuel Fund and notwithstanding the extent of the dependence on imported refined product; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a) volume of strategic stock is available and (b) total number of days of national consumption does the specified volume represent? NO5449E

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

Whether he has presented any proposal to the President of the Republic, Mr M C Ramaphosa, to do away with the unlisted investment portfolio of the Public Investment Corporation; if not, why not; if so, (a) on what date was the proposal presented and (b) what was the agreed way forward? NO5496E

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

With the 2026-27 *El Niño* already bringing reduced rainfall and the prospect of crop failures, livestock losses, water restrictions and increased pests and diseases, what contingency measures has his department put in place to protect particularly small-scale and/or emerging farmers who lack the resources to implement costly measures to adapt to the *El Niño* climate? NO5509E

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

With reference to the alleged illegal discharge of hazardous chemicals from Sasol's Benfield operations into the Klipspruit River and the failure to secure contemporaneous river samples, what (a) scientific methods has his department used to establish the facts surrounding the alleged contamination and (b) measures have been implemented to prevent industrial pollution from compromising water security and public health? NO5450E

**★760. Dr M A Maimane (BOSA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

(1) What measures have been implemented by her department since she assumed office to address persistent and unjustifiable pay disparities in the Republic;

(2) what are the details of appropriate legislative mechanisms that she intends to promote to ensure greater fairness, transparency and accountability in the Republic's remuneration dispensation? NO5489E

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

Considering that the January 2026 floods did immense damage to the infrastructure of the Kruger National Park, with some estimates putting the value of repair at over R1 billion, what are the full details of the rebuilding efforts, with particular focus on how rebuilt infrastructure will be more resilient to future climatic events? NO5475E

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

Whether, following the termination of the Master Services Agreement between SA Social Security Agency and SA Postbank and the litigation that followed, he had intervened to protect the mandate of the SA Postbank as the state bank; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps has he taken to capacitate SA Postbank and (b) by what date will the authorisation to establish SA Postbank in 2016 be converted into registration as a bank by the Prudential Authority? NO5451E

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

Despite the improvement in electricity availability, what (a) total number of households are currently affected by load reduction and an unreliable supply and (b) firm deadline has been issued to each specified affected municipality by which load reduction will be eliminated? NO5532E

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

Whether his department has conducted an audit of abandoned mines that cause acid mine drainages in the Republic; if not, why not; if so, what (a) is the current total number of abandoned mines in the Republic and (b) steps has he taken to hold accountable the mining companies responsible for acid mine drainages? NO5499E

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

To what extent has she found the Labour Activation Programme has been effective in (a) reducing unemployment and (b) alleviating poverty for persons who are unemployed and not getting any formal education and/or vocational training? NO5452E

★**753. Mr S Zondi (DA) to ask the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources:**

Whether, considering that section 34 of the Insolvency Act, Act 24 of 1936, provides that when a trader sells or transfers its business, the goodwill thereof, or goods or property forming part of such business, except in the ordinary course of business or for securing the payment of a debt, that trader is required to publish a notice to that effect, PetroSA has published any section 34 notice when it leased its assets to the SA National Petroleum Company under the lease and assigned model; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO5482E

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

Whether, with reference to the shortfall of R120 million identified by the SA Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) for its coverage of the forthcoming local government elections and his decision not to support the SABC's funding request in the adjustments budget process, he will secure the required funding before polling day; if not, why not; if so, (a) through what mechanism and (b) by what date will the funding be secured? NO5454E

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

Given the new tariff increases applied for by Eskom, (a) by what date is it anticipated that South Africans would see a below-inflation increase to electricity prices and (b) how will the proposed increase in free basic electricity allowances to low-income households be funded? NO5493E

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

Considering the findings of the Auditor-General of South Africa in the follow-up performance audit on the rehabilitation of derelict and ownerless mines that the rate of rehabilitation improved only from 1,67% mines a year in 2009 to 2,25% mines a year by 2021, and noting the allocation of R87 million for the rehabilitation of derelict and ownerless mines in the 2026-27 financial year, by what year does his department expect the rehabilitation of all catalogued derelict and ownerless mines to be completed at the current rate of budget allocation? NO5455E

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

Whether she has found that the most effective and sustainable means to achieve economic transformation and redress historical inequalities is through strong labour-absorptive economic growth that creates employment opportunities for those currently excluded from the economy, to prevent an increase of the current staggering unemployment rate of 33,6%, which is a 0,9% increase from the previous quarter; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NO5472E

**★794. Mr A Nchabeleng (MK) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:**

What is the (a) average percentage increase in the electricity cost borne by households in the past three financial years and (b) projected electricity increase for the next three years? NO5529E

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

With reference to his department's commitment made in 2021 to recruit 10 000 agricultural extension officers, which did not materialise and was repeated in the 2026 State of the Nation Address without adequate budget provision, what (a) funded recruitment and/or district-based deployment plan has his department developed and (b) specific measures will be implemented to ensure that adequately equipped extension officers are visible in farming communities? NO5456E

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

What (a) are the reasons that the North West, which produces over 70% of the world's platinum, has the lowest labour absorption rate in the Republic at about 31,6%, and (b) steps has she taken to engage mining companies in the specified province and throughout the Republic to absorb young persons and thereby contribute in the efforts to reduce unemployment? NO5503E

**★729. Ms J L Mokoena (ANC) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

What measures were implemented by his department to address (a) infrastructure backlogs and (b) security threats to the wildlife protected areas of the Republic in the 2025-26 financial year? NO5458E

**★763. Mrs N L Hlazo-Webster (BOSA) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:**

What total amount (a) was collected by the Universal Service and Access Fund in the past five financial years and (b) remains unspent? NO5492E

**★749. Mrs D van der Walt (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture:**

With regard to his recent call at the Agri North West Congress on 2 September 2026 for farm attacks targeting farmers and farm workers alike to be declared priority crimes, how will such a declaration help ensure that the crime receives the appropriate level of attention? NO5478E

**★792. Mr W Q Ngobese (MK) to ask the Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies:**

What specific measurable targets has his department set for (a) reducing the cost of data and (b) increasing meaningful internet access among low-income and rural households? NO5527E

## QUESTION STANDING OVER IN TERMS OF RULE 138(5)

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

Whether she has disclosed gifts given by foreign governments timeously; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NO4662E

## QUESTIONS TRANSFERRED FROM WRITTEN TO ORAL REPLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 146(1)

★**803. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:** ***[Written question 4004]*** **[REPLIED TO AND REMOVED IN TERMS OF RULE 146(2)]**

★**804. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:** ***[Written question 4225]***

(1) With reference to his reply to question 364 on 4 March 2026, regarding the actions from the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) following the Commission of Inquiry into Allegations of Corruption at the Public Investment Corporation (PIC), also known as the Mpati Commission, what are the (a) reasons for the delays in finalising key regulatory actions, including debarment proceedings, and (b) specific timelines for the completion of all outstanding enforcement actions arising from the specified Commission's findings;

(2) (a) what total number of investigations have been initiated by the FSCA arising from the Mpati Commission, and (b) in respect of each specified investigation, (i) what is the nature of the alleged misconduct, (ii) on what date was the investigation initiated and (iii) what is the current status and/or final outcome;

(3) what (a) total number of matters arising from the Mpati Commission have been referred by the (i) PIC to the FSCA and (ii) FSCA to the National Prosecuting Authority and/or any other law enforcement agency, and (b) has been the outcome in each case? NO4507E

★**805. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:** ***[Written question 4226]***

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to question 364 on 4 March 2026, regarding the actions from the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) following the Commission of Inquiry into Allegations of Corruption at the Public Investment Corporation (PIC), also known as the Mpati Commission, the FSCA has fully exercised its existing enforcement powers under current financial sector legislation in relation to persons and/or entities implicated in the Mpati Commission; if not, (a) which powers have not been utilised and (b) what are the reasons for relying on prospective reforms such as the Conduct of Financial Institutions Bill rather than taking action under existing laws; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) what is meant by the statement from the FSCA that it has undertaken intensified supervisory monitoring of the PIC, and in this regard, what (a) specific supervisory actions have been undertaken, (b) measurable findings and/or outcomes have resulted from such actions and (c) enforcement and/or remedial steps have been taken as a consequence;

(3) whether the findings arising from such supervisory monitoring have been shared with affected asset owners, including the Government Employees Pension Fund and other public funds; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4) whether any officials within the FSCA and/or any other relevant institutions have been held accountable for delays and/or failures to act on the findings of the Mpati Commission; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(5) whether any (a) internal or (b) external review has been conducted to assess the effectiveness of the FSCA’s response to the Mpati Commission six years after the release of its report; if not, why not; if so, what were the findings and recommendations of the specified report? NO4508E

★**806. Mrs W R Alexander (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:** ***[Written question 4245]***

Given that the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) will reportedly hold approximately 49,3%, a minority position, in an unlisted company controlled by the continuing management shareholders, (a) what contractual protections has the PIC secured in terms of (i) board representation, (ii) reserved matters and/or veto rights and (iii) anti-dilution protection exit mechanisms, including any (aa) put option, (bb) drag and/or tag rights, or agreed liquidity event and (cc) its time horizon and for what period the PIC's capital is locked in and (b) how will the Government Employees Pension Fund realise value from the specified investment if no exit event occurs? NO4527E

**★807. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance: *[Written question 4391]***

(1) Whether, with reference to the construction contract for the Ga-Rankuwa Shopping Centre redevelopment that has been awarded to a certain company (name and details furnished), he will furnish Mr A G Bateman with the reasons that the specified company was selected; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether he and/or the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) has been informed of any (a) irregularity, (b) deviation from procurement policy and (c) departure from the approved procurement process in relation to the awarding of the contract or any subsequent variations; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the full, relevant details in each case;

(3) whether he and/or the PIC has been informed of any communication, representation or attempt by any person outside the formal governance structures of the PIC to influence the awarding of the contract or any subsequent variations; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the full, relevant details;

(4) whether any member of the Board, executive management, bid evaluation committee and/or bid adjudication committee (a) declared a conflict of interest and/or (b) recused themselves; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the full, relevant details in each case;

(5) whether any complaints, objections, internal reports, forensic investigations and/or audits have been conducted into the awarding of the contract and/or any subsequent variations; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the full, relevant details?

NO4724E

**★808. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance: *[Written question 4647]***

Whether he will make the PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) investigative report into the Acapulco transaction available to the public; if not, why not; if so, what were the (a) findings and (b) recommendations of the PwC report?

NO4977E

**★809. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance: *[Written question 4648]***

(1) With reference to the investments of the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) in entities associated with a certain company (name furnished) and the subsequent settlement of related claims, what was the rationale behind the approvals for the investments and settlement;

(2) whether he and/or the PIC has been informed of any external attempt to influence the specified decision; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) by whom and (b) how;

(3) whether any investigation identified possible improper influence and/or irregularity; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the findings;

(4) whether any objections and/or concerns were raised by (a) PIC officials, (b) Board members and/or (c) advisers; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case;

(5) whether there were any departures from (a) normal procedures, (b) conflict of interest regulations and/or (c) guidelines on recusals; if not, what is the position in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case? NO4978E

★**810. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:** ***[Written question 4845]*** **[REPLIED TO AND REMOVED IN TERMS OF RULE 146(2)]**

★**811. Mr A G Bateman (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:*[Written question 4847]*** **[REPLIED TO AND REMOVED IN TERMS OF RULE 146(2)]**

★**812. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:** ***[Written question 4851]*** **[REPLIED TO AND REMOVED IN TERMS OF RULE 146(2)]**

★**813. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:** ***[Written question 4852]***

Whether, with reference to the Advisory Note of the Public Service Commission of June 2026 which stated that public servants must not participate in study groups that are not formally authorised through official governmental processes, any officials in his department participated in subsequent authorised study group meetings; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a) were the dates of the meetings and (b) are the relevant details of the items that were discussed in the specified meetings? NO5194E

★**814. Mr E V Baptie (DA) to ask the Minister of Electricity and Energy:** ***[Written question 4854]***

(1) In light of reports that Eskom has concluded public consultations in the Eastern Cape regarding the proposed Thyspunt Nuclear Power Station near St Francis Bay and Jeffreys Bay and further noting concerns relating to the environmental impact, public participation, economic viability and infrastructure readiness, what are the relevant details of the nuclear technology proposed for the specified power station, including (a) associated safety and risk profiles, (b) provincial disaster preparedness and emergency response plans and (c) assessments that have been conducted on evacuation readiness and infrastructure capacity in surrounding areas;

(2) what (a) is the estimated total cost of the project and proposed funding model, (b) analysis has been conducted on the potential impact on electricity tariffs and (c) comparative assessments exist between nuclear energy and alternative energy sources?

NO5196E