



[NO. 5-2015] Second Session, Fifth Legislature

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QUESTION PAPER FOR ORAL REPLY TO THE MECs:

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Questions Day: 18 August 2015

Note:

1. + Indicates translated version.
 2. *Indicates a question for oral reply.
 3. ■ Indicates a written question transferred for oral reply..
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24. *Hon. SPD Skhosana, ANC, to ask the MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism

Bushbuckridge Local Municipality is one of the poorest in our province and unemployment especially for the youth and women is very high:

- i. Is the Honourable MEC aware of the above situation?
- ii. If yes, are there any programmes in place to uplift the standard of living in the above mentioned Municipality?
- iii. What programmes are those, if any to address high levels of unemployment and poverty in this Municipality?

25. *Hon. MC Sedibe, EFF, to ask the MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism

On the 17th February 2014 allegations of financial irregularities and misconduct against the then CEO of MEGA, Mkhize were made. The Accounting Officer was duly notified. In terms of section 33.1.1 of Treasury Regulations the accounting authority must ensure that the investigations are instituted within 30 days:

- i. Why has the Board failed to comply in terms of PFMA Sec. 51?
- ii. Why is there nothing happening to those who transgressed policies together with the CEO and instead you fired the whistle blower, the CFO?
- iii. Is the Board not promoting corruption by these acts?

26. *Hon. SI Malaza, ANC, to ask the MEC for Community Safety, Security and Liaison:

The issue of drugs and alcohol abuse is a major challenge to the people of Evander. One of the most significant risks is the interrelationship between alcohol, drugs and crime:

- i. Fighting crime is an urgent need for the safety of our communities, what plans does the department have in place?
- ii. What are the new strategies from the Honourable MEC to combat drug abuse and trade?
- iii. What plans are there in place to monitor the mushrooming of taverns on daily basis?

27. *Hon. RJ Sithole, DA, to ask the MEC for Community Safety, Security and Liaison

In regards to counselling at Police Stations, can the Hon. MEC answer the following:

- i. How many police stations have counselling and trauma debriefing facilities for victims of rape and sexual assault and / or abuse? Please provide a breakdown for each station?
- ii. Can the Hon. MEC indicate how many officials i.e. social workers etc. are employed at those police stations for this purpose?

28. *Hon. MC Sedibe, EFF, to ask the MEC for Community Safety, Security and Liaison

The recent appointment of new security companies sparked a lot of debates and debacles and left many security guards jobless and very poor:

- i. Can the MEC explain why did the department not have a job protection plan for the guards that were working before, and now compel the new security companies to retain and consider the experienced guards?
- ii. Does this not go against the president assertions during the State of the Nation Address (SONA) that any person that has worked for more than three months must be considered for permanent employment?
- iii. Why did the department not intervene in the exploitation of the security guards when the new company failed to pay the salaries?
- iv. Was it difficult to mediate between the two?

29. *Hon. SPD Skhosana, ANC, to ask the MEC for Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environment Affairs:

During our recent research visit to Govan Mbeki Municipality (Ward 15) we noted with great disappointment the fact that five farm labour tenants families were threatened with evictions in the following areas, Trichartfontein Farm, Eerste Geluk Farm, Kopie Farm, Grootvlei Farm and Blink water Farm:

- i. Is the Honourable MEC aware of this adverse situation?
- ii. What measures are there in place to force the farm owner to stop this disturbing situation?
- iii. What does the department do to those already illegally evicted from the farms?
- iv. What measures are in place to force the perpetrators to respect the rule of law in these cases?

30. *Hon. C Maunye, BRA, to ask the MEC for Agriculture, Rural Development Land and Environmental Affairs:

With regards to the growth of agriculture in the province:

- i. What are some of the programs that have been implemented in the farming areas of Mpumalanga to create employment, alleviate poverty and reduce the migration of people to urban areas to seek job opportunities?
- ii. Does government have any plan on setting agro processing facilities in areas such as Chochocho, Dinleydale, Gert Sibande, Nkomazi areas and Thaba Chweu?
- iii. What plans do they have to make agriculture lucrative to young people?
- iv. Will you consider coming up with clear branding strategies on the packaging of agricultural products made in the province?
- v. Can you please provide a database of all the commercial and subsistence farmers in the province?

31.* Hon. B Grobler, DA, to ask the MEC of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs.

Pertaining to the establishment of the Agri-Hubs in various municipalities, that will feed the Fresh Produce Market, can the MEC please answer the following:

- i. Can the MEC please indicate exactly where in each municipality the Agri-Hubs will be situated, with a time frame on when they will be completed?
- ii. How much will it cost to establish each of these Agri-Hubs?
- iii. In accordance with the operational and business models designed for these Agri-Hubs, what produce will each Hub be supplying to the Fresh Produce Market?
- iv. Can the MEC please share the progress made in identifying both emerging and commercial farmers to supply stock to the Agri-Hubs.
- v. Does the government have private sector or international financing partners on this venture, if so, please name them or will the provincial fiscus foot the entire bill for this project?

32. *Hon. AL Skhosana, EFF, to ask the MEC for Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs

Forensic Probe into Land Claim deals puts in the spotlight the Sunday Independent 2 August 2015. According to the reports the evidence implicates Mpumalanga Premier David Mabuza:

- i. Have you ever done any land audits in your department ever since coming to office?
- ii. What remedial actions are you putting in place to avert this malaise from happening again if it is true?
- iii. Land claimants are coming in dribs and drabs in our office complaining about the level of corruption in this restitution process, how are you going to ensure confidence if allegations like these, although subjudice, continuously surface?
- iv. Is the MEC aware of any past or present corruption allegations in land restitution?

33. *Hon. WT Madileng, ANC, to ask the MEC for Education:

There are a number of very old and dilapidated schools in Bushbuckridge Local Municipality which were built by communities many years ago, namely Daniye Primary School, Godide High School built in the 70's and Mahubo High School in Ward 36 Allandale:

- i. Is the Honourable MEC aware of the situation in the above mentioned schools?
- ii. If yes, are there plans in place to rebuild these schools and other old ones not mentioned above?
- iii. Can the Honourable MEC elaborate on the above plans?
- iv. What challenges are there in improving the above mentioned institutions, if any?

34. *Hon. P Ngobeni, ANC, to ask MEC for Education.

Regarding the merger of two schools (Muzimuhle and Zithobeleni) in ward 10 KwaMhlanga.

- i. Is the MEC aware of the community outright rejection of the mergers of the two schools?
- ii. Were there any efforts to engage parents and the communities where those two schools are based?
- iii. Is the MEC aware that one of the schools, which is Zithobeleni is becoming a white elephant as parents complain of distance, no qualified educators and the school with poor academic record?

35. *Hon. RJ Sithole, DA, to ask the MEC for Education

With regards to Cefups Academy and the State Attorneys and Councils opinion in this matter, can the MEC indicate the following:

- i. The State Attorney gave an opinion in this matter late December 2014, can the MEC please give an overview regarding the decision the HOD has taken since the report and what progress has taken place to date?
- ii. According to the Legal documents the HOD failed to comply with Regulation 7 (i)(b)(iii), can the MEC explain why the HOD failed to comply?
- iii. With the HOD's failure to comply, can the MEC explain how this oversight has negatively affected the above case?
- iv. Has or will the HOD face any disciplinary measures, regarding the failure to comply with the above regulation? If yes, when and if no, why not?

36. *Honourable WT Madileng, ANC, to ask the MEC for Education

Regarding the academic operation of MRTT in Thembisile Hani Municipality:

- i. Is the MEC aware that since 2010 learners haven't been getting academic results and haven't been certified?
- ii. What could be the main reason for this situation in the satellite MRTT centres based in Thembisile Municipality?
- iii. Are those MRTT satellite centres operating in Thembisile registered and monitored by the department, if yes, what is the state of affairs regarding those centres?

37. Hon. GC Shabalala, ANC, to ask the MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

On Wednesday 22 July 2015, the residents of Nyimbe in Msukalikwa Local Municipality went out to march for better toilets, RDP houses and electricity. There was chaos and destruction of property during this march:

- i. Is the honourable MEC aware of the above situation?
- ii. Are there any plans in place to respond to the above mentioned crisis?
- iii. If yes, can the Honourable MEC elaborate on that?

38. *Hon. AL Skhosana, EFF, to ask the MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs

On Wednesday 29 July 2015 four Municipal Mayors were given marching orders by the ruling party and were subsequently replaced:

- i. Is the MEC aware of the level of incompetency in her department?
- ii. If yes, what Honourable MEC has put in place to capacitate the Mayors in her department?
- iii. If no, then how did it happen that many Mayors like these are replaced during your tenure?
- iv. Did the MEC see this coming? Things fall apart in this department, and does the MEC agree with this assertion?

39. *Hon. C Maunye, BRA, to ask the MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

With regard to capacity of Councillors having proved that Councils are not spending their budget accordingly and they continue to get disclaimers:

- i. Can the MEC elaborate on what institutions are being used to capacitate councillors in order for them to do their job?
- ii. What measures have been taken against Municipalities that continue to get disclaimers?
- iii. The Premier has signed performance contract with the Mayors. When can we see the performance clauses made public?
- iv. Given that we are at least nine months away from Local Government Elections, are there plans in place to assist councils spend their budget accordingly?

40. *Hon. P Ngobeni, ANC, to ask the MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

The sewage system in Bethal and eMbhalanhle is a serious issue which needs immediate attention. The roads are filled with potholes in almost every road in the area:

- i. Is the Honourable MEC aware of the above situation?
- ii. If yes, what could be the cause of all this?
- iii. What plans are there in place to improve on the above mentioned crisis?

41. *Hon. B Grobler, DA, to ask the MEC for Human Settlements

With regards to household that are still using bucket toilets, can the MEC please answer the following:

- i. According to government data, as off today, how many households in the province still use bucket toilets?
- ii. What were the provinces targets in terms of bucket toilet eradication in the 2011/2012, 2012/13, 2013/14, and 2014/15 financial years?
- iii. For the financial years 2011/2012, 2012/13, 2013/14, and 2014/15, how many bucket toilets did the province actually eradicate?
- iv. Can the MEC make a commitment on a date as to when bucket toilets in households will be completely eradicated?

42. *Hon. BV Nkuna, ANC, to ask the MEC for Human Settlements:

The house of a 71 year old lady was destroyed by Mr Trevor Friedman, a farmer in Ward 15 (Bethal). This house was built by the Honourable Premier as part of the Premier's Legacy project in 2012. The owner Ms Rasebolai who is also blind watched helplessly as her house was brought down:

- i. Is the Honourable MEC aware of this situation?
- ii. What could be the cause of this action by Mr Friedman?
- iii. What action was taken against this farmer?
- iv. Is there any further help rendered to the poor old woman?

43. *Hon. GC Shabalala, ANC, to ask MEC for Human Settlements

The ANC led government has taken a policy decision to completely ban the use of asbestos for construction of RDP housing:

- i. Is the MEC aware of the existence of 47 asbestos RDP houses in ward 10 in Thembisile Municipality?
- ii. What measures are being taken to correct that appalling conditions of those asbestos badly build houses?
- iii. In the entire Province, what measures were taken to correct defective RDP houses?

44. *Hon. BV Nkuna, ANC, to ask the MEC for Human Settlements:

There is a great demand of RDP houses in rural areas, Gert Sibande District Municipality and Govan Mbeki Municipality being some of those mainly affected areas:

- i. Are there any plans in place to respond to this outcry?
- ii. If yes, can the Honourable MEC respond to that?
- iii. What steps does the Honourable MEC take to improve the situation?

45. *Hon. JL Nghondzweni, ANC, to ask the MEC for Health:

The situation in Evander Hospital remains critical; the service is very poor and there is a great shortage of staff and at times there is only one doctor who goes home at 4pm. The Bethal Hospital is also very old and ward 5 and 6 including the pharmacy are still made of asbestos and are a threat to the patients:

- i. Is the Honourable MEC aware of this situation?
- ii. If yes, are there plans in place to remedy the situation?
- iii. Can the Honourable MEC elaborate on plans or strategies to improve the situation in these hospitals?

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