



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2264

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 09 JUNE 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 23)

2264. Mrs M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Which (a) initiatives has he taken to investigate the alleged impact of corruption with regard to the cholera outbreaks in the Republic and (b) measures have been taken to deter the impact of corrupt practices on the quality and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

(a) The provision of water and sanitation services is the function or mandate of local government, and hence the Minister of Water and Sanitation does not have legal mandate to investigate corruption in Water Services Authorities.

However, based on the Department's mandate, the Minister has resuscitated the incentive-based regulatory mechanisms, namely, Blue, Green and No Drop Assessments which monitor the condition of municipal water and sanitation infrastructure:

- The Green Drop Report, which focuses on sanitation (waste-water treatment systems and effluent quality)
- The Blue Drop Report, which focuses on water (water treatment and water quality)
- The No Drop Report, which focuses on non-revenue water and water losses through leakages

The Blue and Green Drop Assessments results have shown that several municipalities lack the financial and technical capacity to manage water services adequately. The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has a constitutional obligation to support municipalities, as well as to regulate the provision of water and sanitation services. The Minister has crisscrossed the country visiting those municipalities with severe challenges with water and sanitation services. In many of the worst performing municipalities, Minister and municipal leadership have agreed on improvement plans. In certain instances, the

Minister has set-up both Political and Technical Committees comprising of various institutions to oversee and drive the implementations of these plans/projects.

- (b) Based on the Blue and Green Drop assessment findings, municipalities are required to develop and submit corrective action plans to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). The improvement plans include a range of short, medium, and long-term projects to improve water and sanitation infrastructure.


Furthermore, the DWS together with the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), Department of Human Settlement and National Treasury are in the process of developing the National Action Plan to implement the corrective or improvement plans.

Both these plans will be funded through the DWS' Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) and Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG) and CoGTA's Municipal Infrastructure Grant.


Furthermore, the Minister is strengthening the capacity of Water Boards to assist municipalities to implement these improvement plans. There are a number of projects that are being implemented throughout the country with the assistance of Water Boards and the DWS Construction Unit.

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ ~~NOT RECOMMENDED~~/ AMENDED


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 11/7/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 21/07/23