



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 1749

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 04 APRIL 2025
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 14)

1749. Mr S J Moore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) What total number of times has the Water Task Team, chaired by the Deputy President, Mr S P Mashatile, met since 1 January 2024;
- (2) considering that the water supply shortage of the Republic is mostly municipal borne, what (a) resolutions and/or decisions has the Water Task Team taken to ensure that municipalities adhere to their mandates and (b) evidence can be provided of such resolutions and/or decisions?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

- (1) The Water Task Team convened meetings on the following dates in 2024 and 2025
 - 02 April 2024
 - 09 April 2024
 - 05 November 2024
 - 20 February 2025
 - 21 February 2025 (Site Visit to Hammanskraal)
 - 08 April 2025
- (2) The findings of the DWS Green, Blue and No Drop reports found that many municipalities that are Water Services Authorities are unable to discharge their constitutional responsibilities in a number of areas, including basic service delivery and the management of critical infrastructure like water treatment plants and waste water treatment plants. These findings are supported by reports of the Department of Cooperative Governance, National Treasury, research institutions, and the Auditor General of South Africa. Among some of the Task Team's resolutions/decisions are the following:
 - Facilitate development of an integrated approach by spheres of government to pursue the objective of ensuring that everyone has access to sufficient, clean and safe, physically accessible, and affordable water for personal and domestic use.
 - Institutionalisation of the DDM as an operating model to energise the cooperative governance system to facilitate collective oversight and accountability across all spheres of government.
 - Implementing urgent interventions to resolve an array of challenges and constraints impeding access to drinkable water in our communities, including access to critical sanitation service provision and resolving these challenges
 - The Water Task Team, in collaboration with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the Department of Cooperative Governance, MISA, the National Treasury, and the Infrastructure Fund, has developed intervention strategies to support various municipalities to improve their water and sanitation services.
 - Supporting DWS in its efforts to assist municipalities across the country to improve water and sanitation service delivery. Some of this work is being done through Department's Water Boards and other

Implementing Agents and many of the projects are being implemented by municipalities that are Water Services Authorities.

- As part of addressing funding gaps and challenges, DWS has set-up a Water Partnerships Office that assists municipalities to contract for public-private partnerships. A significant vehicle for achieving this is the Infrastructure Fund, which serves as a blended financing instrument aimed at making infrastructure projects attractive for private sector investment
- Increase investment in the maintenance and construction of water infrastructure. To date, the Infrastructure Fund has secured R23 billion for seven large water infrastructure projects.
- Through the Water Services Amendment Bill, we will introduce a licensing system for water service providers and remove licenses where providers do not meet the standards for quality drinking water.
- To deal effectively with the criminal networks who manipulate water shortages for profit, tampering with infrastructure to sell water to desperate communities.

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

Phillips

DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 9 April 2025

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/  NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED



MISS PEMMY C.P. MAJODINA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 10/04/2025