



## **water & sanitation**

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

### **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

#### **FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

#### **QUESTION NO 381**

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

**381. Mr E Nzimande (Gauteng: MKP) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

- (1) Whether she will provide the number of litres of water that is lost in (a) each day, (b) each district, (c) each province and (d) the entire country (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, how much is lost in rand value in this regard;
- (2) what are the corroborative strategies between (a) her department, (b) the Minister in The Presidency and (c) the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure to eliminate non-revenue water across the country?

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### **MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

- (1) The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) monitors water losses in municipalities that are Water Services Authorities (WSAs) through its No Drop Assessment Programme which is conducted every two years. Therefore, the DWS is not able to provide details of water losses from each district or province on a daily basis. The table below provides the percentages of non-revenue water in each province per findings of the No Drop assessments published in 2023.

Province	Percentage non-revenue water
Eastern Cape	50.6
Free State	59.5
Gauteng	49.2
KwaZulu Natal	60.5
Mpumalanga	54.9
Limpopo	57.7
Northern Cape	49.0
North West	55.6
Western Cape	27.6
<b>National</b>	<b>47.4</b>

- (2) Cabinet established a Water Task Team, chaired by the Deputy President in March 2024. The Task Team will give dedicated focus to the resolution of the challenges of water provision in the country. The task team is comprised of DWS, COGTA, Human Settlement, Public Works and Infrastructure, Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development as well as the Police Departments.

Other initiatives implemented by the DWS in collaboration with municipalities to mitigate high levels on non-revenue water include:

- The Department is in the process of finalising National Minimum Norms and Standards for water services provision. The norms require municipalities to develop water conservation and demand management strategies, and set standards for acceptable average per capita consumption, NRW and water losses
- The Department concluded the updating of the National WC/WDM Strategy, supported by three subsidiary strategies focusing on water services, agriculture, and industry, mining and power generation to drive the implementation of WC/WDM. The WC/WDM strategies are further supported by implementation plans to operationalize and drive implementation of WC/WDM measures by the water sector
- The Department implements the No Drop incentive-based regulatory programme. The No Drop programme is used as a tool to regulate municipal performance on water loss management and water use efficiency practices. This includes the No Drop Guideline which has been workshopped on a national level and distributed to municipalities.

- The Department has further established the Water Partnership Office (WPO) within the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA). The WPO has developed five standardized National Programmes for private sector participation in municipal water and sanitation services. One of the five National Programmes within the WPO is the Non-Revenue Water (NRW) programme aimed at implementing the WC/WDM and cost recovery programme focusing on reducing losses, reducing over consumption and improving cost recovery.

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

*SPhillips*

**DR SEAN PHILLIPS**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**  
**DATE: 15 April 2025**

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/  NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED



**MISS PEMMY C.P. MAJODINA, MP**  
**MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**  
**DATE:** *16/4/25*