



MINISTRY
WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1938 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mrs S V Kalyan (DA) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

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DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


MRS B E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 21/08/2012

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1938

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 3 AUGUST 2012
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 21)

1938. Mrs S V Kalyan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 1686 on 11 July 2012, the SA Weather Service is involved in using fog harvesting technology; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) why has her department, despite the ongoing pilot work done by the Water Research Commission, not sought to procure fog harvesting technologies for the augmentation of water supplies in areas where the technology is known to work? NW2327E

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REPLY:

- (1) The water harvesting project which the South African Weather Service (SAWS) is engaged in, forms part of our social responsibility. Second year meteorology students from the University of Pretoria are expected to do a community project. Each group in the last three years chose to do a water harvesting project in the far northern parts of Limpopo where there is a lot of fog. Two schools, Tshiavha and Tshanowa were identified; both schools do not have access to drinking water but are situated in areas where there is lots of fog. Fog nets were built in those schools to harvest fog water. The SAWS has in the previous years, sponsored the students to implement the project.
- (2) The fact that the SAWS is involved as stated in (1) above means the Department of Environmental Affairs is doing something about this technology. We do not procure technologies only on the basis that the Water Research Commission is doing pilot work or not. Our plans always go in accordance with that which is doable, given our capacity and available funds.

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