



water & sanitation

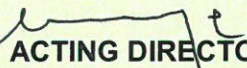
Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/26

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION ★132 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mr L V Magwebu (Eastern Cape: DA) is attached for your consideration.


ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 16/04/2018

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/ AMENDED 


NKWINTI GE (MP)
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 20/04/2018

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO ★132

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 11 APRIL 2018
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 13)

★132. Mr L V Magwebu (Eastern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

With regard to the recent drought that is experienced in the Western Cape, what measures are in place to ensure that there is a national monitoring of dams and water levels, especially in the inland areas where sea water is not easily accessible as an alternative?

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REPLY:

My Department has a National Water Monitoring Programme which collects water levels from rivers, dams, estuaries, major canals, tunnels/pipelines and groundwater.

On major dams, my Department weekly publishes the state of dams report, which highlights current dam levels and capacities. For most rivers there are water levels monitoring points. For ground water, my Department monthly monitors water levels and quality in 2400 boreholes.

With regards to the Western Cape drought, the Minister and the Premier of the province had a working meeting to enhance Intergovernmental Relations and cooperation on water management issues. In addition, Departmental, Provincial and Local Municipality technical officials meet bi-weekly to discuss drought operational issues.

My Department has media briefings and media statements posted on the Department's website. For example, on 17 April 2018 the Minister had a media briefing in Parliament to announce the release of water from Berg River Dam to Misverstand Dam. We also had a media briefing in February to announce drilling at Theewaterskloof Dam.

In an effort of encouraging water users to save water, we continuously organise media tours to our dams to showcase the water levels.

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