



**MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY FOR PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 507142**

**WRITTEN QUESTION FOR WRITTEN ~~ORAL~~ REPLY**

**Inkosi R N Cebekhulu (IFP) to ask the Minister in The Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation:**

- (1) What has been her Office's findings on the evaluation of the economic growth performance in the past decade in relation to the goals of the National Development Plan (NDP) which were intended to be financed by an economic growth rate of 5,4% from 2012 to 2030;
- (2) how does she intend to deal with the underperformance in economic growth envisaged by the NDP? **[NO587E]**

## Reply:

- (1) The National development Plan (NDP) remains the country's blueprint to unite all South Africans to address the triple challenge of unemployment, inequality and poverty. The Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) is the government's five-year programme for the implementation of the NDP 2030. According to the MTSF, economic growth is expected to average at 2-3% per annum; while investment was expected to reach 23% of GDP by 2024 with 8% and 15% of GDP contributions by the public and private sectors respectively.

Despite the government's concerted efforts to implement economic reforms aimed at reviving growth and employment, the economic outlook in South Africa remains bleak. Intensified load shedding has dampened economic activity, compounded by external factors such as fallout from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, catastrophic weather occurrences, freight and logistical constraints, and a challenging global backdrop.

However, there are encouraging signs. The latest Gross Domestic Product (GDP) figures, as reported by Statistics South Africa, reveal a modest growth of 0.1% in the fourth quarter of 2023. Notably, ~~this growth surpasses pre-pandemic levels, underscoring the resilience of our economy during the recovery phase. real GDP reached R1,158 billion in the same period, representing continuous improvement from the pre-COVID-19 level of R1,150 billion.~~ GDP surpassed its pre-pandemic level of R1,150 billion in a space of about 2 years (i.e. Q1 of 2022), underscoring the resilience of our economy. By the fourth quarter of 2023, real GDP reached R1,158 billion, ~~Although still which is~~ below the peak recorded in the third quarter of 2022, ~~signalling that the recovery remains fragile and that there is a need to accelerate the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan interventionsthis incremental increase signifies ongoing progress in the country's economic recovery. It underscores the robustness of our economy and the positive impact of government interventions.~~

(2) The Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation in South Africa is deeply concerned about the slow economic growth and the failure to meet the NDP targets. The department remains focused on monitoring and assessing the continuous implementation of growth reforms aimed at reviving the economy. This includes monitoring the implementation of policies designed to foster a conducive environment for economic recovery and expansion, interventions in infrastructure development, support for small businesses, and activities aimed at attracting investments and additionally, the measures ~~.- additionally, the department is committed~~ to addressing the electricity crisis through continuous monitoring.