**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 1284**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER [No 22-2020 SIXTH PARLIAMENT]
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**1284. Mrs A Steyn (DA) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:**

(a) What is the current vacancy rate of her department**,** (b) which programmes are mainly affected and (c) what measures has her department put in place to fill the vacancies and/or to ensure that service delivery is not hampered?  **NW1652E**

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:**

1. 12.58 %.
2. Program 5 – Economic Development, Trade and Marketing.
3. The Department is in the process of finalising the merger of the former Department of Rural Development and Land Reform and the agriculture component of the former Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. A procedure is in place for Branches to approach the Minister for approval to fill posts identified as critical and essential as per DPSA Circular 19 of 2020.