**National Assembly
Question Number: 1743
Mr S J Masango (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:**
(1) With regard to the R1.1 billion allocated to the Moloto Corridor, what amount is allocated to (a) the upgrade of the R573 and (b) the Moloto railway project;

(2) will both projects start simultaneously; if not, when will the (a) upgrade of the R573 and (b) railway project (i) start and (ii) be completed in each case;

(3) has an environmental impact assessment been conducted with respect to the railway project?
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**REPLY:**(1) (a) The full amount of R1.1 billion has been allocated over the next three years towards the upgrading of the R 573.

(b) No funding has been provided for the Moloto Rail Development Corridor.

(2) The upgrade of the R573 will commence before the railway project.

(a) (I) The upgrade of the R 573 will commence in the 2015/16 financial year.
(ii) The upgrade is planned to be concluded by 2017/18.

(b) (i) The Rail Project is a registered Public Private Partnership initiative that is currently in Treasury Approval 1 stage.

(ii) Should funding be approved, two years to finalise the detailed design and five years for the construction of the rail project.

(3)An Environmental due diligence has been undertaken as part of the Treasury Approval 1 feasibility process and no environmental fatal flaws has been found related to the railway project. A detailed Environmental Impact Assessment will be commissioned following Treasury Approval 1. approval, by National Treasury.